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Ann Arbor Observer

April 2020

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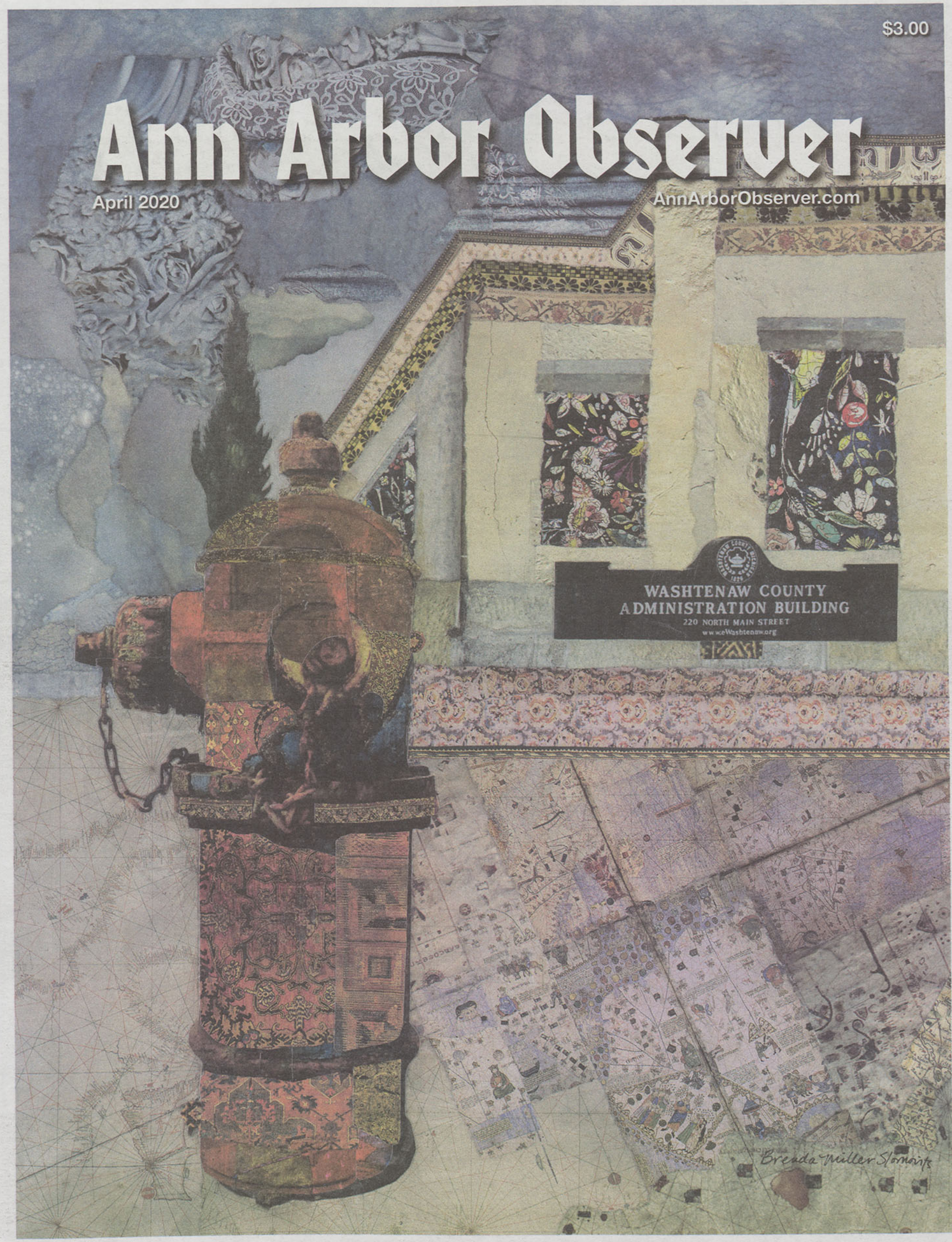

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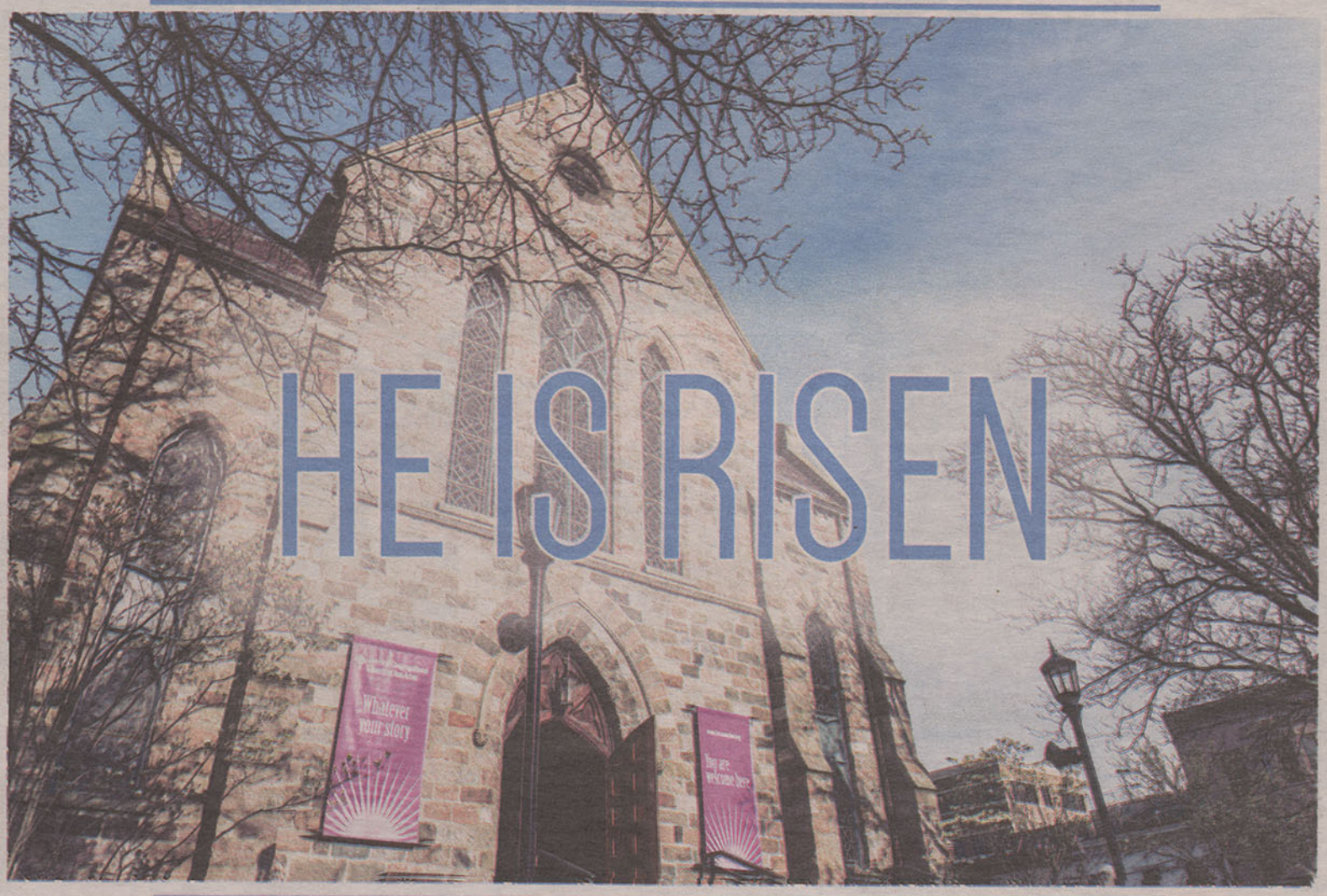

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J. Adrian Wylie

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Mark Bialek • Sally Bjork • Bob & Jorja Feldman

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LR Nuñez • Brenda Miller Slomovits
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The Ann Arbor Observer (ISSN #0192–5717) is published thirteen times a year, once each month plus a special issue in August (the City Guide), by the Ann Arbor Observer Company, 2390 Winewood, Ann Arbor, MI 48103. Telephone: (734) 769–3175. USPS #454–470. Member of Circulation Verification Council. Periodicals postage paid at Ann Arbor, MI.

Free delivery opt-out: The Observer is delivered free to all permanent residents of Ann Arbor. To opt out of free delivery, call (734) 769–3175 x 301 or email subscribe@aaobserver.com.

Subscriptions: $25 for one year, $40 for two years, $55 for three years. All paid print subscriptions include Priority Web Access, available separately for $10/year. Call (734) 769–3175 x 301, email subscribe@aaobserver.com, or online at annarborobserver.com/subscribe.

Manuscripts: The Observer welcomes freelance material. Send manuscripts to Editor, Ann Arbor Observer, 2390 Winewood, Ann Arbor, MI 48103. Email: Hilton@aaobserver.com

Postmaster: Send address changes to Ann Arbor Observer, 2390 Winewood, Ann Arbor, MI 48103.

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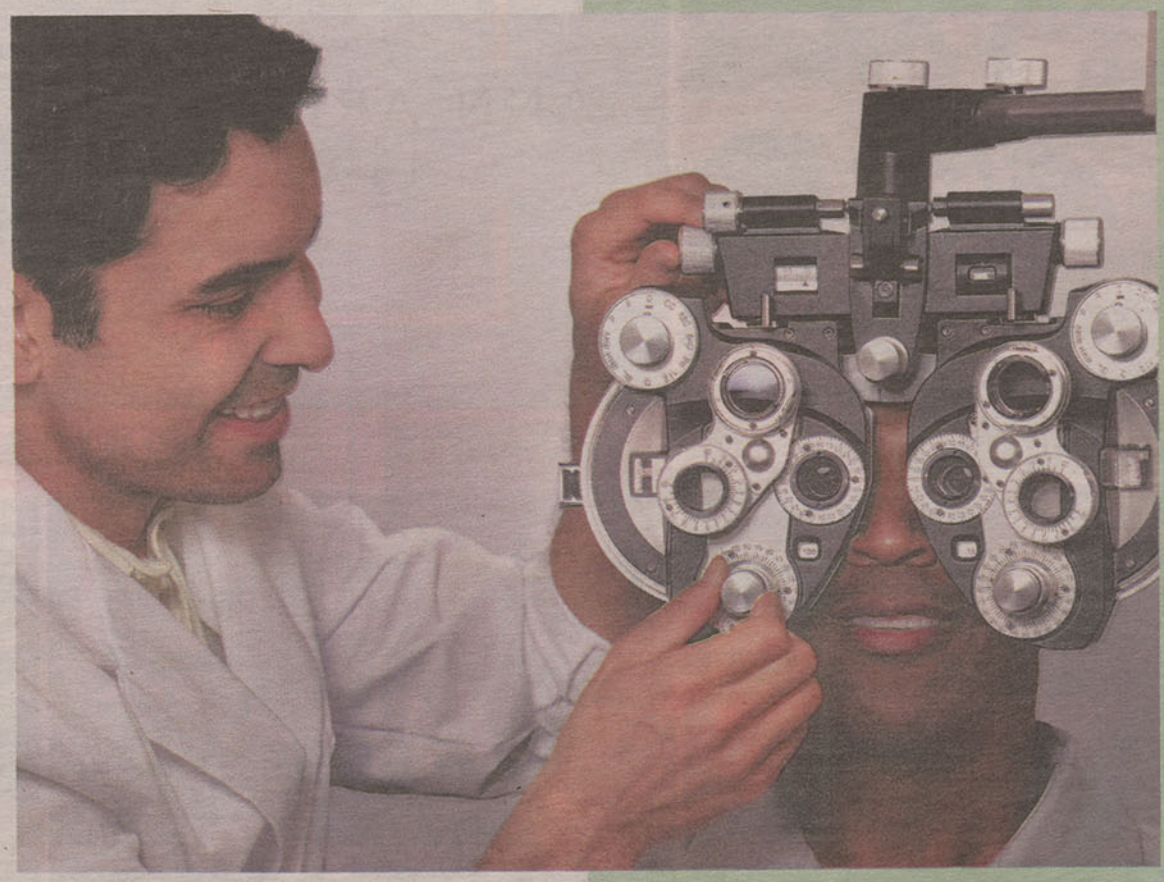

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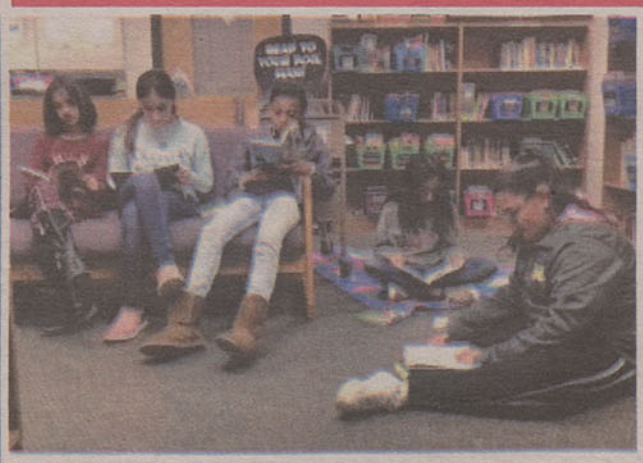

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With large gatherings prohibited at least through the end of March due to the Covid-19 pandemic, most major events in April have been canceled. These listings include those still expected to take place as of March 18; for current information, see AnnArborObserver.com. Our **Seniors Calendar** is on p. 49; new exhibits at local **Galleries**, p. 53; **Films**, p. 55; and **Kids Calendar**, p. 52. Plus reviews of writer **Lauren Groff**, the **Comedy Jamm**, and articles on how performers and venues are adapting to the restrictions.

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Covid-19 Assistance

Help is available: If you face a shrinking paycheck, have been laid off from work because of the Covid-19 pandemic, or can't work because you need to care for sick family member, young children, or seniors, you may be eligible for **extended unemployment benefits**. Apply immediately by calling (866) 500–0017 or online at miwam.unemployment.state.mi.us. Claims must be filed by 11:59 p.m., April 14. No in-person applications will be accepted at unemployment insurance offices; they are closed to the public.

Talk to your bank immediately if you are concerned about cash flow. Ask about short-term loans, home equity loans, skip-a-payment options for mortgages, or other assistance programs they may offer.

If you rent, speak with your landlord and ask if you can pay part of your rent now and the rest later.

If you lose your **housing,** contact Housing Access for Washtenaw County: housingaccess.net or call (734) 961–1999 (Mon.–Fri. 8:30 a.m.–5 p.m.). For **food assistance,** see Food Gatherers' list of distribution sites at foodgathers.org/need-food or call (734) 761–2796. Local school districts are providing meals for students on the free-and-reduced program—see a2schools.org for details on the AAPS program. Many local restaurants also are providing food free or for a free-will donation—see Restaurants, p. 33.

DTE and Consumers Energy have **suspended utility shutoffs** for seniors and low-income families who are unable to pay their bills. Call (800) 477–4747.

SOS Community Services (734) 484–9945, and the Salvation Army (734) 668–8353, may be able to assist with **utilities**.

The **United Way** provides assistance and connections to local services. Visit unitedwaysem.org/2-1-1 or dial 2-1-1 for its 24/7 hotline.

Comcast is offering low-income customers sixty days of **free internet** and is working on additional ways to help everyone stay connected. Phone: (800) 934–6489.

Ways to help: First, do all you can to slow the spread of the virus. **Wash your hands**—frequently and thoroughly. Stay home if you can, and if you must go out, use the opportunity to help others.

"Stress levels are high, of course, and this certainly is uncharted territory, but I think the best way to handle the coming weeks (and, possibly, months) is to reach out and help someone who may be worse off," suggests Sandra Andrade, executive director of the business association Main Street Ann Arbor. (For ways to help the businesses themselves, see Restaurants, p. 33, and Marketplace Changes, p. 37).

Andrade and many others suggest some creative, commonsense ways to reach out to neighbors without actual physical contact.

Don't panic at the grocery store or pharmacy. **Don't hoard.** If grocery inventories are low, pay extra attention to the pricing label before you drop that box of cereal, milk carton, or loaf of bread in your cart. If it says "WIC," the product is eligible for purchase for low-income women, infants, and children in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program. People who use WIC to feed their children can't switch to another brand or kind of food. If a store runs out of WIC options, these women go home empty-handed.

Take a casserole, batch of brownies, or jar of jam to an elderly neighbor or shut-in. But call in advance, and if you want to speak with them, step back at least six feet. Or **keep a window between you** as you speak by phone.

Advocate good health measures by sharing *official* messages regarding public health and safety to your friends and family, via social media, phone calls, or letters. The authority on the pandemic locally is the Washtenaw County Health Department: washtenaw.org/covid19.

Find **creative ways to volunteer** in your community—rake someone's yard, paint a front door, weed a garden for a shut-in, share books and magazines, shop for someone you know, deliver prescriptions or doughnuts.

Fight isolation by using Skype or Facetime to visit with family and friends.

Volunteer to tutor children in your area of expertise (math, writing, history, social studies) by video chat. Or, if you don't feel qualified, read stories or demonstrate crafts. Help assemble and/or deliver meals to shut-ins and school children.

If you do go out, **make sure to smile** at everyone you see. Thank the overworked clerks in stores you visit, send notes of thanks and appreciation to first responders, health care workers, and others helping your community.

Ways to contribute: Many local organizations are stretched to their limits in an effort to meet the huge and escalating demand for services. These nonprofit agencies have all announced that 100 percent of all donations will be used to "meet the needs of the vulnerable populations, including those needing food, helping children, and serving families facing loss of income due to business closures, health issues, and housing crises."

Donations, contributions, and volunteer hours would be greatly appreciated for:

The **American Red Cross** has a severe blood shortage, since more than 220 of its upcoming blood drives have been canceled in Michigan alone. Healthy individuals are desperately needed to help critically ill patients. The Red Cross assures donors that this is "a safe process and we have implemented additional precautions to ensure blood drives and donation centers are even safer for our donors and staff." 4624 Packard St. RedCross.org. (800) RED–CROSS.

The United Way of Washtenaw County launched its Covid-19 Community Relief Fund in early March and within two weeks had reached $150,000 of its $1 million goal. To donate, visit uwgive.org. United Way also welcomes calls from volunteers offering their time, funds, and donations: (734) 971–8200.

SOS Community Service operates a food pantry and offers families transportation, help with utilities, personal care items, and housing resources: (734) 484–9945.

Community Action Network's Bryant Community Center Market offers weekly food distributions to all county residents Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to noon. Families will line up at the door for bags of food; they won't come in the building. Email volunteers@canannarbor.org.

Food Gatherers. Their network of food pantries and meal programs responded immediately to the crisis, including the Community Kitchen at the Delonis Center homeless shelter. A recent press release noted, "In everything we do, Food Gatherers is following infection control practices and CDC guidelines to avoid service contamination." They are working closely with school districts to develop delivery and distribution systems. Local Rotary clubs offer to match contributions of $25 or more—and that $50 will provide enough food for 150 meals. Volunteers support all operations. See www.foodgatherers.org/donate or call (734) 761-2796.

Hope Clinic needs help stocking, organizing, cleaning, preparing and distributing meals-to-go every night but Wednesdays and Fridays. For volunteer and donation information, see thehopeclinic.org/contact-us.

The Humane Society of Huron Valley. As family budgets grow distressingly tight, many will be forced to give up their pets because they can no longer afford them. The HSHV always welcomes donations of food and treats for dogs and cats, as well as financial contributions and volunteer time spent with the pets. They also celebrate each pet adoption. See hshv.org

Washtenaw County Salvation Army has temporarily closed its Family Thrift Store locations and is focusing on providing food, manning Bed & Bread trucks and kitchens. See https://salarmy.us/COVID-19.

Ann Arbor Community Center "is focusing on supporting urgent needs during the COVID-19 situation." Phone: (734) 662–3128.

SafeHouse Center provides shelter for survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence, as well as counseling, legal advocacy, and support groups. Phone: (734) 995–5444.

Ann Arbor Meals on Wheels is continuing its regular operations, but with extra precautions. It is working to create shelf-stable and frozen meals in case the organization needs to close—"although that would be a last resort." Call (734) 998–6686 or email aamealsonwheels@umich.edu.

—Cynthia Furlong Reynolds

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- **BUY A GIFT CARD:** Purchase a gift card online or via the phone for yourself or someone you love to use at a later date. Buy something great once you feel comfortable.

- **UNDERSTAND YOUR OPTIONS:** Many local businesses are offering to ship or deliver products directly to your door, or are offering curbside pickup. Call your neighborhood businesses or visit their websites to understand your options before going elsewhere.

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Shutdown

"This has not been done since 1918," says quarantine expert Howard Markel. "And it's very scary and very frustrating."

After studying seven centuries of pandemics, the U-M physician and medical historian knows the best and worst of how humans treat one another when threatened by mass infections. But he says even he was "gobsmacked by the COVID-19 crisis."

As scary as it is to see Ann Arbor's schools and concert halls shut down, even more drastic steps are being taken around the world. "I think it's almost a billion people [in China who] are under lockdown," Markel said in mid-March.

"It's a giant pyramid. At the top of the pyramid, at the apex, is the isolated and the sick. The next wedge are the quarantined—people you suspect of being ill or suspect of having contact with the ill.

"And then there's the bottom wedge—we actually came up with the term—they're 'protectively sequestered.' "

"We are enacting a similar arrangement here in America," he adds. "We're putting [people] away before they have contact" with the virus. That includes nursing homes confining residents to their rooms and people sequestering themselves in their apartments and getting food delivered.

Markel started studying quarantines when he was in graduate school at John Hopkins in the 1980s. "I had finished my pediatrics training there and was getting a PhD in the history of medicine, and in the evenings I was volunteering in an AIDS clinic.

"A lot of my gay male patients and intravenous-drug-using patients would ask me, 'Do you think I'll be quarantined because I have AIDS?' And I said, 'No, it's a sexually transmitted disease and [quarantine is] just not appropriate.' "

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Markel in 2017, when the topic was his book on the Kellogg brothers of Battle Creek—not a global pandemic.

But people kept asking, "so I started to think about it. These people have been stigmatized on so many levels, it's not an unreasonable thing to ask."

That's when Markel "started getting interested in the historical roots of quarantine—all the way back to the Middle Ages … I got interested in looking at immigrants who imported, or who were accused of importing, infectious diseases. And what happened is an era when quarantine was actually used—or misused—and misapplied to people society just didn't like."

After writing two books—*Quarantine!* and *When Germs Travel*—Markel says, he "was perfectly content to put that topic aside." But in 2005 he got a call from the Pentagon, which led to consulting "with the Defense Department and then with the CDC, from about 2005 all the way to 2016." Along the way, he became a media mainstay as a national expert on epidemics.

Markel was teaching English 317—"Literature and Medicine"—in East Quad when "we all got an all-points bulletin from the [U-M] president that we'd be teaching long distance." So in mid-March he was learning how to teach remotely.

It's the prudent thing to do, but "it can't replace the magic that happens with a professor in a classroom," he says. And he's been giving as many as seven interviews a day, providing perspective to media ranging from the *Wall Street Journal* and *People* magazine to CNN and the BBC.

Getting up at 5 a.m. and working late, "I have my hands full," he says. But, he adds, "the very hard jobs are the health officers' who are on the front lines, trying to manage this crisis."

Why was Washington caught so flat-footed? "They get distracted by other things," Markel says. "They get distracted by the spin of the moment. And we tend to have a government of political actors who are more interested in a game of gotcha—on both sides, mind you—than on governance.

"So it's entirely predictable that we would be unprepared in a world that forgets about the last pandemic or epidemic and, almost as soon as it ends, goes along its merry way."

In an interview on NPR's *On Point*, he added that "history is littered with public health officials who either acted too early,

He reminds people that other mass infections preceded Covid-19 and others will follow. "We've had six epidemics—two of them pandemics—in the last twenty years."

and then everybody gets angry about that, because these are incredibly disruptive to human society and economics and so on. Or they acted too late, and then people get sick and or die. So … you really have to be the Babe Ruth of public health to knock that one out of the park."

Markel tries to be Ruthian in his line of work. "I have a very narrow talent that I've learned to maximize," he laughs. "I am a pediatrician, and I am a teacher, and I teach many different levels, from children to adults … I've gotten very good at changing channels and communicating in different points of view."

What's his message? "If you don't have to be in a public space, don't do it," Markel says. "A lot of the choices of public gatherings have been made for us. Major League Baseball, my beloved baseball, did exactly the right thing. I would not go to a movie if I could see it at home.

"It's circulating," Markel says of the virus. "It's not an issue of a contact anymore. It's out there."

He reminds people that other mass infections preceded Covid-19 and others will follow. "We've had six epidemics—two of them pandemics—in the last twenty years," Markel says: "SARS, bird flu, H1N1, MIRS, Ebola, and Covid-19 … So it's not like this problem is going away."

He adds, "if you look at the last few lines of Camus' *The Plague,* a book I teach every year, that's exactly what it says—[Camus] was not an epidemiologist, but he got it perfectly."

Humanity has "survived many, many challenges," he says. "And I suspect, I hope, I believe, we'll continue to do so, particularly if we remember we're part of a community. And there's no situation where we're more part of a community than an epidemic. Because the microbes themselves are socially mediated, and how we deal with them is very much socially mediated."

The next pandemic, he says, is "not a matter of if, it's a matter of when." So, along with preparedness and emergency drills, we need "experts thinking and talking about it and doing studies before it happens. And doing policy studies, too, because there's a lot of policy implications—poor people are going to have a much harder time financially with

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quarantines than some, say, wealthier people.

"You have to talk about that before, not during. And frankly, after, people have this amnesia, and they forget all about it."

So where does that leave us as we hunker down while COVID-19 crests?

"I think [the shutdown] may help to flatten the curve, so to speak, to lower the amount of cases … and hopefully will protect our most vulnerable Americans—the elderly and the ill," he says.

"But we're flying by the seat of our pants," he adds. "Because anyone who tells you that they know the answer or can predict when this will be over is either lying or is foolish."

MARK BIALEK

Now that Ann Arbor Open students are collecting recyclables, custodian Jalyn Boone no longer has to empty the trash three times per lunch.

Waste Not

A year ago, staffers at Ann Arbor Open School were throwing away fifteen bags of trash every lunch period.

According to assistant principal Christopher Curtis, that's now down to one.

Kids now separate their compostable and recyclable materials instead of throwing away everything. They stack their trays. They even sort and ship out their juice pouches for recycling.

Reducing waste at Open took a community effort. Parents like Lisa Quijero helped with the rollout. Custodians like Jalyn Boone appreciated no longer needing to empty the trash three times per lunch. The lunch supervisors were very supportive. Even the kindergartners helped by making signs for the sorting stations.

Parent Kimberly Edwards says Lawton has "converted all our major school events to zero-waste events."

Curtis says he and Quijero knew the kids would support the idea, but they were surprised at just how well. "They were way better at it than I thought they would be."

Lawton Elementary has also seen impressive results. On a typical Wednesday in November, the school composted fifty-four pounds of food and thirty-one pizza boxes.

For Lawton parent Kimberly Edwards, it's not just about diverting more than 250 pounds of food a week from the landfill. "Food waste, when put into a landfill, breaks down to make methane gas, a significant contributor to climate change," she explains. "By composting food waste, we take a material that would contribute to climate change and make it back into healthy soil to grow food. For our children's sake, I want to do what I can to slow climate change." And students are so eager to help, she says, that "I am constantly turning away students who want to be a part of the compost team."

Edwards didn't stop at lunch. "I have converted all our major school events to be zero waste events," she says. "With the help of Recycle Ann Arbor, we have achieved 90 percent composting/recycling for the Run-a-thon and ice cream social and 100 percent for the field day."

The city doesn't collect compost over the winter, so Lawton stops food composting then. At Open the recyclers have borrowed compost carts from families and are storing the compost in an enclosed area till spring.

"This year it's just a matter of surviving" the winter storage, says Curtis. He is hopeful that next year the city will switch to year-round compost collection as proposed in its solid waste plan.

Interviewed before his departure at the end of February, former city administrator Howard Lazarus said that's still an open question. "The extension of composting to a year-round service is dependent upon the city realizing the savings from changes to the current residential recycling collection contract," he explained. "A new approach is not in place, so we will not be extending the service this year." The city is seeking bids for a residential collection contract, so it could potentially be in place in time for the 2020–2021 school year."

No matter what happens with the city, Open continues to go green. According to Curtis, the school is using fewer non-recyclable bags to collect recyclables and plans to eliminate the ones that remain. They are building on-site compost for food waste from the classrooms. Curtis emails that they also are looking at what to do with the foam lunch trays that fill that one trash bag.

"Another classroom is discussing fundraising the [$]12k needed to purchase a machine that will reprocess the styrofoam lunch trays into plastic bricks that can be used in a variety of ways."

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1 New England Journal of Medicine, nejm.org/doi/ full/10.1056/NEJMoa1613502
2 cdc.gov/VitalSigns/ pdf/2012-02-vitalsigns.pdf

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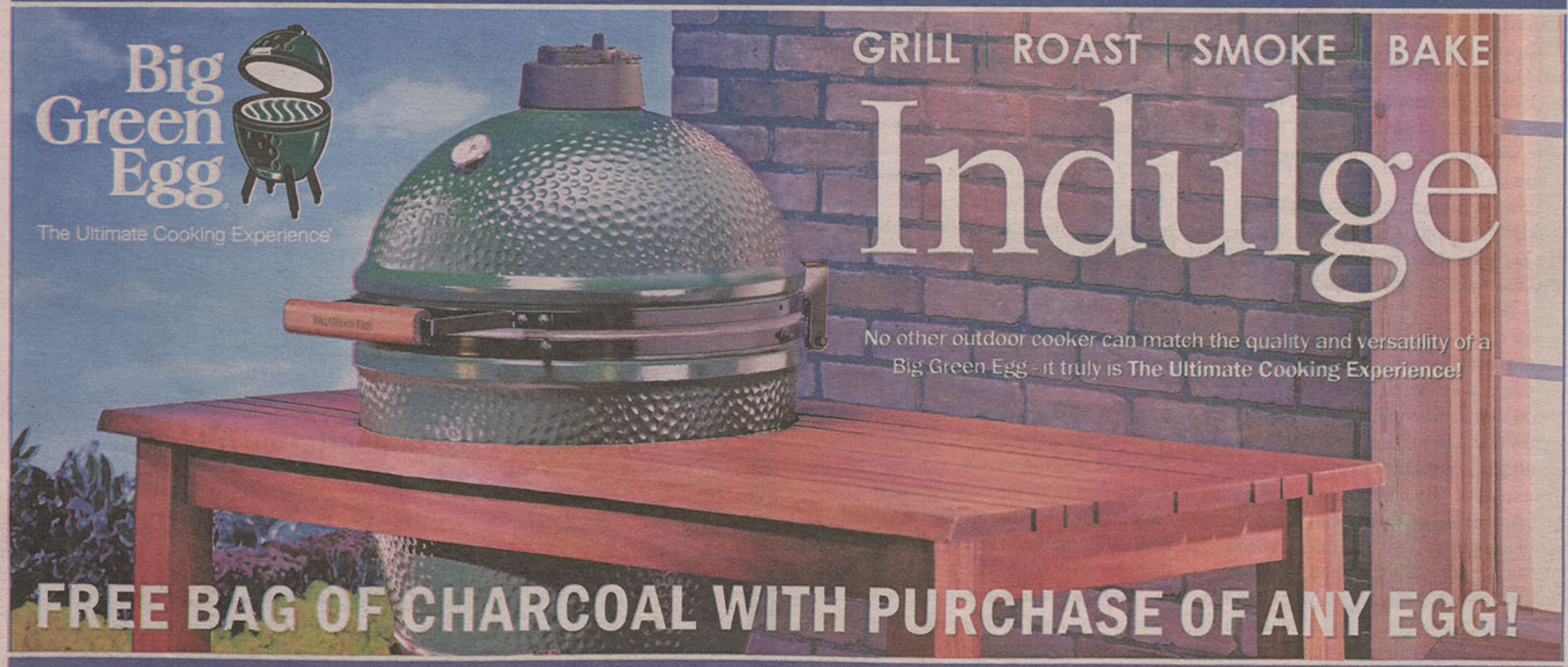
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Delivery Bots

From his office window, Matthew Johnson-Roberson can see his robots heading out to make deliveries.

They aren't very big—about the size of a child's bike—and there aren't very many of them—just five at the moment. But "we've been doing deliveries every day out of this office," says Johnson-Roberson. And the U-M robotics prof thinks the REV-1, the self-driving, bicycle-wheeled robot he and mechanical engineering prof Ram Vasudevan developed, makes a lot more sense for short-range food deliveries than DoorDash or Uber Eats sending a car and driver.

The car-based companies, Johnson-Roberson says, typically keep 30 percent of the bill. "If you talk to the restaurants, they really don't care for that," he says. "It's actually very difficult for them to make a business out of that. So one of the things that motivated us to do this was just that that seemed like an unsustainable model."

He says the company they founded, Refraction AI, charges restaurants 15 percent, and customers pay $3. By comparison, "You can pay anywhere from $5 to 8, or $10 to $12 with tip, on Grubhub."

The REV-1 is still in the pilot phase, with about 400 users ordering food from Miss Kim, Chow, Tios, Belly Deli, and Grabbagreen. But Johnson-Roberson says they've been surprised by the wide range of people who are interested in taking part, from college students to retirees. "The feedback is people are very excited. They hear a lot about autonomous vehicles—there are a lot of news stories—but it's very rare to get the opportunity to actually interact with one."

The REV-1 is small enough to travel in the bike lane, which has led to online posts wondering whether the machines will obstruct or endanger bicyclists.

Johnson-Roberson says that the vehicle complies with "all the classifications of a Class Two e-bike, which is allowed to run on city streets and in bike lanes all over the state of Michigan"—but "eighty to ninety percent of our time, we're in the streets in Ann Arbor, not the bike lanes."

Johnson-Roberson, a bicyclist himself, says the REV-1 is programmed to behave predictably when it detects a bicycle behind it: "It maintains its speed, so if you want to pass it, you know it's not going to lurch forward or back into you … And then if the cyclist passes, which is typically what happens, we don't make any sudden movements left or right, and then if the cyclist begins to merge in front of us, we gradually slow down" to let it pull ahead.

"We meet all of the requirements and insurance holdings and everything else for the state's [electric vehicle] testing," he adds. "So in the same way there is a lot of Waymo [self-driving vehicles] on the streets here, we are doing the same thing, but with a lighter, safer vehicle."

Like Waymo's Chrysler minivans, each REV-1 has a human monitor. Since there's no room for a person to ride, though, Refraction's "teleoperators" monitor three vehicles at a time from its downtown office. And to have "a human there if something goes wrong" during the pilot phase, communications rep Cindy Huynh emails, a "safety operator" follows behind on a bicycle.

A worker at Miss Kim says the safety operator also sometimes picks up the food and loads it into the vehicle. Most of the time, though, the restaurant and customer do that themselves, after being texted a four-digit code that unlocks the delivery compartment for loading and unloading.

City transportation manager Eli Cooper says a "micromobility" subcommittee is looking at regulatory questions raised by the introduction of e-scooters, e-bikes, and now, food delivery robots. "A strict definition of a bicycle lane is that equipment in a bicycle lane needs to be a bicycle and human-powered," he says, "but we have that under review."

Johnson-Roberson says Refraction is considering expanding into other cities in Michigan before venturing out around the country. "We're open to being in other states, but Ann Arbor is the place for us to learn what works and what doesn't; how to scale; what the economics look like. But to grow from here is really our goal

JOHN HILTON

During the pilot phase, each REV-1 is monitored remotely from Refraction's downtown office—and followed by a bicyle-mounted "safety operator."

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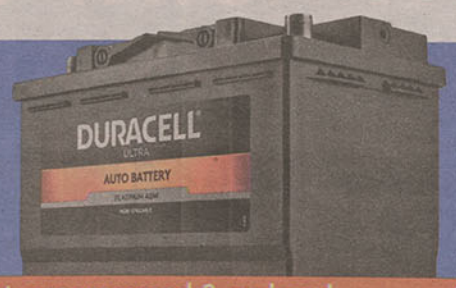

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MARTHA VALEN

Though just three broken gravestones survive, historians believe as many as 200 people may have been buried in Terhune Pioneer Memorial Cemetery.

… The plan is to keep all of the R&D, all of the engineering, and in fact all the manufacturing in southeastern Michigan."

Refraction is backed by San Francisco venture capital firm Trucks and eLab Ventures, based in Ann Arbor and Silicon Valley. Roush Industries is building the body shells. Huynh says the robots cost about $4,000 apiece, and so far, no one is renting or purchasing them—just paying for the service they provide. But Refraction hopes that changes, too.

Johnson-Roberson says they're asking themselves "what process, and what type of vehicle assembly, works for 1,000 vehicles? There are a lot of challenges around how to scale that. But we really want to come up with the right business case … we're talking to a lot of big companies about what their needs are for delivery and for moving goods around.

"From a practical perspective, we're doing a lot of learning—making the vehicle more effective, safer, faster, more efficient. Part of that is figuring out how to use what sensors we have better and then what new sensors and new technology we can integrate, what can we do to make it cheaper and also safer?

"I could build a vehicle that costs $150,0000," he says. "But I don't understand how you deliver a burrito with that and make any money."

History's Mysteries

"Where are Ann Arbor's earliest settlers buried? That's what we've been trying to determine."

Over the past year, Cobblestone Farm Association president George Taylor has marshalled an impressive array of experts to help answer that question: local historians, the Ann Arbor chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, experts in the use of ground-penetrating radar, and a U-M lecturer and students. Jointly, they've cast their eyes and their expertise on the Terhune Pioneer Memorial Cemetery on Ann Arbor's southeast side.

"With new and sophisticated technology, we hope to answer at least some of the questions previous generations couldn't answer," says Blair Zaid, a lecturer in anthropology and archeology.

Tucked away in a residential subdivision on Terhune St, the cemetery sits on a mound accessed by steep wooden stairs. Three broken gravestones are all that remain of what historians believe is the first burial site in Ann Arbor.

"Until we connected with the U-M," Taylor says, "we were wading through legends and rumors trying to find the truth" about the site.

Settled in the 1830s, when it was still governed by Pittsfield Township, the area had a "tremendous impact on the history of Ann Arbor," Taylor says. But "until we connected with U-M, we were wading through legends and rumors trying to find the truth about who was buried on this site."

According to one legend, the nearby DTE substation was built atop the cemetery after it fell into disrepair. Another says that a farmer threw the other tombstones in a nearby creek and plowed the consecrated land. One local resident years ago said that he saw old gravestones displayed at the nearby Ticknor farm on Stone School Road.

Historians believe as many as 200 pioneers could have been buried in Terhune. However, descendants of some exhumed and moved their ancestors' bodies to other cemeteries when the old cemetery's upkeep declined.

On a bone-chilling day in November, Zaid, the students, and a graduate assistant laid out a grid in string then meticulously surveyed the top of the mound and surrounding woodland with a

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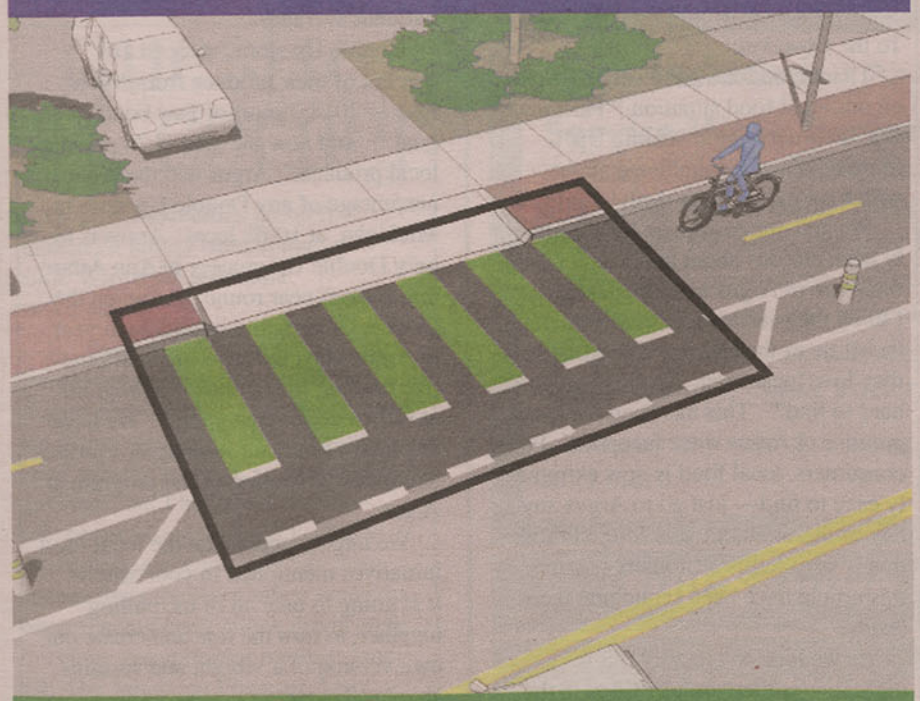

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Inside Ann Arbor

ground-penetrating radar device borrowed from Central Michigan University. Meanwhile, Taylor, DAR members, and curious neighbors watched intently.

"Because of the nature of the site, we needed to use a nondestructive technology rather than an archaeological dig to explore the land," Zaid explained.

Beforehand, Taylor and local historian Ed Wall (see "Pittsfield's Historian," p. 31) had thoroughly researched the cemetery's history. The first person buried there, in 1825, was eighteen-year-old Emily Whitmore. Wall says that her father, Luke Whitmore, "selected a burial site on a small knoll on his property, the knoll being just a little closer to heaven."

Eventually, Luke Whitmore gave twenty-four neighbors warranty deeds to the cemetery. Since no burial records were kept, "we don't know how many or who are buried there," Wall says. But "a remarkable mosaic of people were from this area and might have been buried here: three who served in the Michigan House of Representatives, one senator, a delegate for the governor, two were involved in forming the Republican party in Jackson, one

Life in Ann Arbor — Tim Athan

Library Lot Yearnings

calls & letters

Brighton's therapy dogs

March's Inside Ann Arbor article on Abbot Elementary's new therapy dog noted the Abbot principal Pam Sica got the idea from Brighton, where all of the schools employ canine comforters. But "Cindy Coleman of Mi Mountain Doodles did not donate all of Brighton's dogs," Sica emailed. Coleman confirms that she donated only Brighton's most recent furry staffer.

Getting into wholesale

To the Observer:

Thank you for a great set of articles on our local food situation ["Farming 2.0," February, and "Scaling Up," March]. This is a challenge about which we care a great deal.

We and our customers have certainly been curious about the reason for the omission of Argus from the last article. I think the confusion comes from the [sub]title of the article: "Everyone says they love local food. So why is it so hard to find?" This has been the exact premise of Argus since inception. For consumers, local food is now extremely easy to find— just go to Argus any day of the week, all year long. I think this is why Argus customers reading this article have been scratching their heads.

As we look to quantify our impact, the statistics that you identified in the article are extremely helpful:

"… half of all farms bring in $6,000 or less." At Argus in 2019 over 30 farms brought home more than $6,000 in payouts from their sales. The average payouts were over $20,000 for these farms. In total, we just passed the cumulative milestone of $10 million in local sales, of which $6.5 million has been paid out to local farms and producers.

"… for most people, convenience is key, and supermarkets are the easiest place to buy food. Getting products there, however, requires delivery trucks, USDA certification, massive quantities, uniform quality, lower pricing …" All true, unless you live in Ann Arbor, and can shop at Argus, where farms take home 75% of their retail sales (5 times higher than the national average).

Double Up stores sourced 16 percent of their produce from Michigan in 2018, "short of Fair Food's goal … and now the goal is 20 percent local produce." Argus had the highest percentage of any Double Up store in Michigan, at 100% local. Argus is the only Double Up grocery in Ann Arbor that is open year round, and when the Double Up program pauses each year in April–May, we have found alternative funding to continue the program at full value for customers. We have engaged a graduate student on a project to expand utilization of the program at Argus.

We hugely appreciate the local food initiatives mentioned in your article. It is going to take all of us, pulling together, to turn the tide and create our own version of a vibrant and sustainable local system.

Sincerely,
Bill Brinkerhoff

As Brinkerhoff surmised, we were focused of the scarcity of local food in wholesale channels and chain supermarkets. We're sorry to have slighted Argus and other independent grocers.

played a major role in Lincoln's election, four ministers (one of whom helped open China to Christian missionaries), two sheriffs, several Civil War veterans, and three Revolutionary War veterans."

Those Revolutionary War veterans inspired the Ypsilanti and Ann Arbor DAR chapters to preserve the cemetery. When a developer tried to declare the cemetery abandoned so he could build on it, the DAR purchased the land. In 1990, the group turned ownership over to the city.

Wall has written a history of Pittsfield Township's Revolutionary War soldiers, among them John Terhune, who was buried alongside his wife Sarah on the Whitmore land. "This is the best kind of story—full of mystery, history, and even romance," observes DAR member Martha Valen.

Valen says the couple met when John was stationed at George Washington's headquarters during the war and Sarah—"a very brave fifteen-year-old girl"—walked nine miles through the darkness to warn Washington that Hessian mercenaries and English troops were approaching," Valen says. "When the war ended, they married and in time moved to Michigan."

"The DAR is based on preserving the legacy and the stories of our patriots who fought and served during the War of Independence," says Terri Kleinschmidt, president of Ann Arbor's Sarah Caswell Angell Chapter. "Each grave site is extraordinarily important to us."

Zaid won't discuss the findings until the final analysis is complete, but she does say that first-glance results showed "several exciting anomalies" in the ground.

Taylor speculates: "One Whitmore child died in Chicago, and her body was brought back home in a copper box, so she could be buried in this cemetery. The anomaly might be that box."

question corner

Q. City regulations prohibit residential fences from being solid. Why must fences be see-through?

A. Some fencing can be solid; the limitations apply only to the front parts of a property. City zoning coordinator Jon Barrett reports that this zoning "was adopted in 1963, so I can only speculate, but I believe it is to provide better visual aesthetics, avoiding walled-in corridors. Also, near intersections there are safety concerns when fencing could block driver sight."

Many communities regulate fencing. The American Planning Association observes "our ancestors built fences because they wanted privacy and independence; [now] we fight fences because we want everyone to conform to new norms of sociability and neighborliness."

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Great Blue Herons

Leggy predators in local landscapes

You have not seen our weedy river, you do not know the significance of its weedy bars, until you have seen the blue heron wading and pluming itself on it. I see that it was made for these shallows, and they for it. Now the heron is gone from the weedy shoal, the scene appears incomplete. ...

—Henry David Thoreau

Like Thoreau's river, Willow Pond, near the main parking lot at Matthaei Botanical Gardens, seems incomplete when the great blue heron who frequents it is absent. The stretch of the Huron River between Wagner Rd. and Foster Bridge is also diminished without a great blue.

City ornithologist Juliet Berger also suggests looking for these big birds at Gallup Park and the South Pond Nature Area. Other occasional or regular appearances may occur along creeks and streams, shallow and slow-moving parts of rivers, and in ponds, marshes, and wetlands. They even frequent the small detention pond along Valley Circle Dr. west of Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. when the depth is right for wading.

While some great blues migrate, going to Florida or Mexico, or even a little farther south, not all do so. According to Berger, some will stay here as long as they can find open water.

We usually observe them catching and eating fish (and an occasional frog), but they are opportunistic and may eat crayfish, small mammals, lizards, snakes, and even small birds, among other prey. Berger says that after dining, great blues, like owls, spit out pellets of indigestible fur and feathers. Fish bones, she notes, are apparently not a problem for them.

Usually when we see a great blue, we see only one. But in breeding season, they gather in rookeries—some shared with other species and others, such as the one at Kensington Metropark, devoted solely or almost solely to great blues.

Mating and nest building activity at the Kensington rookery should be picking up right around now. If you go, consider bringing binoculars. Our image of a stick-carrying great blue touching down at the rookery was taken with a telephoto lens. Hunters once pursued great blues for their splendid breeding plumage, but their numbers recovered under the protection of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

Aside from visiting rookeries, it is entertaining to watch a great blue's activity in the water—if you have the patience. The bird may stand still or slowly wade for a long time before striking. But when it does, it's dramatic. When stalking prey, its neck is typically coiled in an S curve that makes it look deceptively short. However, the neck quickly becomes weaponized, turning into a long spear when the bird uncoils to snatch a fish or frog that may have thought itself out of reach.

The great blue is the largest North American heron with a wingspan that can go over six feet and a height that can top four feet. Given its size and conspicuousness, it is not remarkable that the great blue heron was the first wading bird that we ever paid serious attention to. We hope others share Thoreau's—and our own—enthusiasm for this fiercely beautiful bird.

PHOTOS: BOB & JORJA FELDMAN

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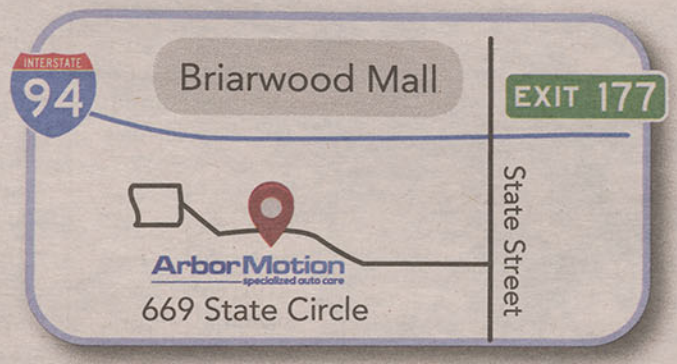

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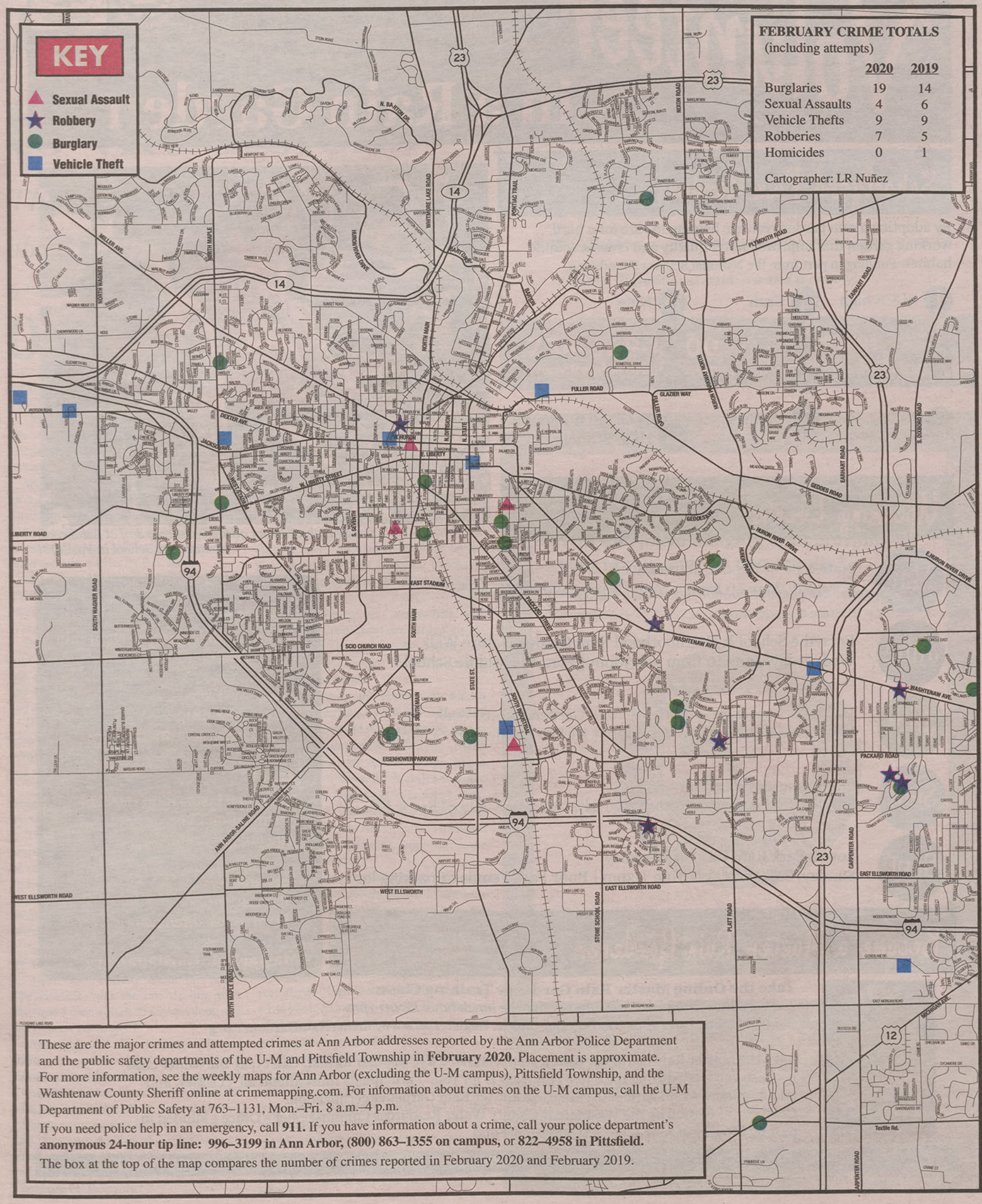

These are the major crimes and attempted crimes at Ann Arbor addresses reported by the Ann Arbor Police Department and the public safety departments of the U-M and Pittsfield Township in **February 2020.** Placement is approximate. For more information, see the weekly maps for Ann Arbor (excluding the U-M campus), Pittsfield Township, and the Washtenaw County Sheriff online at crimemapping.com. For information about crimes on the U-M campus, call the U-M Department of Public Safety at 763–1131, Mon.–Fri. 8 a.m.–4 p.m.

If you need police help in an emergency, call **911.** If you have information about a crime, call your police department's **anonymous 24-hour tip line: 996–3199 in Ann Arbor, (800) 863–1355 on campus,** or **822–4958 in Pittsfield.**

The box at the top of the map compares the number of crimes reported in February 2020 and February 2019.

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3. Bates
4. Bach
5. Clague
6. Estabrook
7. Holmes
8. King
9. Forsythe
10. Eberwhite
11. Ypsilanti Comunity High School

Schoolyard rain garden planting day at Estabrook Elementary School in Ypsilanti

Upcoming Events

May — Native Plant Expo & Marketplace
Saturday, May 30 from 9-2pm | Farm Council Grounds

June — Forsythe School & Neighborhood Rain Garden Nature Walk
Wednesday, June 10 from 7-8:30pm | Forsythe Middle School

July — Dicken School & Neighborhood Rain Garden Nature Walk
Wednesday, July 8 from 7-8:30pm | Dicken Elementary School

Sept — Plant Swap & Weed Pull
Sunday, September 13 from 1-2pm | Pioneer High School Rec & Ed

Sept — Love a Park Rain Garden Workday
Sunday, September 20 from 1-3pm | Buhr Park Tennis Ct parking lot

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Living Off Campus

An Apology to the Hsiehs

The owners of 503 Lawrence care about their tenants' health and safety.

by John Hilton and Jena Brooker

Our March article "Living Off Campus" included tenants' complaints about a rental house at 503 Lawrence. We regret that the article did not include comments from the property's owners, Charles and Chen Hsieh.

"You damaged us without having our side of the story," Chen Hsieh said in a meeting. She felt they should have been given more time to respond.

When Jena Brooker wrote the article for a U-M journalism class, she repeatedly emailed the address posted on the building without response. As the expanded Observer version approached publication, she emailed again and sent a letter by U.S. mail.

But, Chen Hsieh explained, the email address was dormant, and by the time the letter arrived they had only a couple of days to respond before the Observer's deadline.

Because she could see the letter was from a business, Hsieh said, "I thought it was an ad." She set it aside for a few days, and by the time she opened it, the issue had already been printed.

We wish we had reached them in time to include the Hsiehs' perspective, particularly on issues of responsiveness and security.

"We respond to tenant needs and requests within hours," Hsieh said. "We try very hard to keep the house safe."

The article noted that in the 2017–2018 school year, "an abusive ex-boyfriend of one of the residents climbed through different windows multiple times." But, Hsieh said, they were not told about the break-ins. If they had, "we would have rushed there—even [at] midnight."

"Chen is correct," said Jordan Anderson, the tenant we'd interviewed. The Hsiehs, he said, "didn't know about this guy." The resident "was the one dealing with that, and I didn't want to say anything she didn't want me to say."

Anderson and his housemates also corrected a statement that they went for a month without hot water. There was never a time with no hot water, they agreed, but with six residents, there was a chronic problem with showers running cold. Hsieh said they were notified about the issue by email on November 27. After four attempts to fix the water heater, her husband bought a new one on December 2.

Hsieh also asked for details of the "many" code violations the article said Anderson's father noticed during the August move-in. As Anderson recalled recently, the only clear violation was a wobbly porch railing. His father also commented on housekeeping issues, but, Hsieh noted, those were the tenants' responsibility—their lease started in May.

Hsieh said the house has consistently passed city inspections for more than four decades. But tenants tend to confuse normal wear and tear with code violations, she said, and some abuse the house.

As for the porch railing, she said, "the kids sit on it [and] enjoy rocking on it." She added that her husband checks it whenever he goes to the house and has fixed it repeatedly.

"We have been very sympathetic and caring for tenants who are struggling financially," Hsieh said. "We usually let them pay whenever they are ready without adding a late charge."

Hsieh believes the tenant who filed a complaint with the city last fall just wanted "an excuse to move out." When the tenant asked for an immediate cleaning, Hsieh said, her husband rushed to the house and cleaned it himself "in order to make peace." When they went to collect her security deposit, however, she had moved out. As the article noted, code violations found in a subsequent city inspection were promptly corrected.

Hsieh shared her husband's summary of maintenance issues when Anderson's group was there. "We took care of every complaint immediately," she said.

Hsieh said the article was "irresponsible and sensational," for example by saying that members of Anderson's group considered "legal action" without saying what kind. Asked for specifics, Anderson responded that they "had no idea what legal options were available."

The criticisms were particularly painful, Hsieh said, because "we are very responsible and caring people. As parents ourselves, we feel for the parents of our tenants who are far away from them."

We sincerely regret that we weren't able to include the Hsiehs' comments in the article and appreciate the chance to do so now.

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BY KEN GARBER

COURTESY ESPERION

Roger Newton and Tim Mayleben (l. and r., at center) at Esperion's 2013 IPO. They raised $700 million to get the drug to market.

THE VINDICATION OF ROGER NEWTON

He changed the city's history with ***Lipitor.*** *Now he's* ***scored again*** *with a drug Pfizer rejected.*

Roger Newton never claimed to be the smartest person in the room. "These guys are obviously a lot smarter in their specific areas than I am," he told the Observer in 1998, referring to his scientific colleagues at the time. Newton calls himself a builder and relishes the teamwork integral to science, especially in his profession, drug development.

Newton built the Ann Arbor–based team that developed Lipitor, which became the world's best-selling prescription drug. Then he founded two different local biotech companies, both named Esperion and both extremely successful. The second Esperion achieved a rare milestone in late February when the FDA approved its first two drugs, Nexletol and Nexlizet, for lowering LDL (bad) cholesterol. Annual sales forecasts exceed $1 billion.

"It all started with Roger," says Esperion CEO Tim Mayleben. "Roger had the original vision."

A career biochemist, Newton didn't become an entrepreneur until age forty-eight, when he left Warner-Lambert/Parke-Davis's Ann Arbor research labs to found the first Esperion. Speaking at the time with the Observer at his then-brand-new company (employees were still unloading boxes of lab equipment), Newton reflected on his gamble.

"It's a huge risk," he said. "We obviously aren't thinking failure … but the reality is, is that companies fail."

But he also had a mission. Newton trained as a nutritional biochemist at the University of Connecticut, and came to realize that diet only goes so far to reverse atherosclerosis—the buildup of cholesterol and other substances in arteries that leads to blockages, heart attacks, and strokes. He recalled sitting at his lab desk at 11 p.m. on a Saturday in 1974, "reading a book on atherosclerosis. And it was one of those rare times in life that things were so very clear.

"And the clarity was, 'Why don't you try finding something that could alleviate this disease?' "

Though new to running a company, he was willing to learn. And, colleagues say, he has traits that can't be taught.

"His insights and intuition are really strong," says Esperion biologist Clay Cramer. "He's not worried about being wrong, and he's persistent."

Newton's impact on Ann Arbor includes the medical benefits of the drugs he developed, the companies he built, the wealth they generated, and the people they employed. But it didn't stop there. Lipitor, the blockbuster drug he co-discovered and developed, changed the city forever.

When Newton arrived in Ann Arbor in 1981 to work for Parke-Davis, the drug research division of health-care conglomerate Warner-Lambert, the company had gone three decades without getting a major drug approved by the FDA. Newton took charge of a small team tasked with discovering a cholesterol-lowering drug in the emerging class known as statins.

They first synthesized the drug that became Lipitor in 1985. But it had many doubters within the company.

At different points Warner-Lambert managers and marketing executives at the New Jersey headquarters sought to kill the program. There were already three statins on the market, they reasoned, so who needed another one? But Newton and key allies in Ann Arbor managed to keep it alive.

The FDA approved Lipitor for sale in 1997, and it went on to become the biggest prescription drug in history. It brought in $13 billion a year at its peak, vindicating the team's belief in it. And Lipitor's vast profits fueled a building boom at Parke-Davis's Plymouth Road labs.

Before Lipitor, Warner-Lambert's failure to develop profitable drugs had left it vulnerable to a takeover. The drug made the company rich and apparently safe from predators. But paradoxically, Lipitor was *too* successful.

With so many other statins already on the market, Warner-Lambert knew it would have to capture sales from competitors. To add marketing muscle, the company agreed to share Lipitor's marketing rights and profits with Pfizer, which had a massive sales force.

But then Lipitor sales exploded—and the New York–based drug giant coveted all of the drug. Twenty years ago, Pfizer ruthlessly swallowed Warner-Lambert in a hostile takeover.

For Pfizer, though, the prize was Lipitor—not the facility that developed it. That became clear seven years later, when Pfizer needed to slash its costs. Lipitor's patent was approaching expiration, and Pfizer had been forced to abandon its own great cholesterol drug hope—in a massive, late-stage trial, people taking it died at a much higher rate.

Rather than spread the cuts among its three drug-development sites, Pfizer simply axed the entire Ann Arbor research campus. The closing eliminated 3,100 well-paid jobs on the cusp of the Great Recession of 2008 and collapsed the local housing market. The U-M later bought the site, now known as the North Campus Research Complex, but the city's biggest private employer and taxpayer was no more.

Newton left Warner-Lambert before Pfizer took over. Convinced that he could better develop drugs on his own, he founded the first Esperion in 1998. The main goal was to find drugs that raise HDL (good) cholesterol. But Newton also assigned two chemists, Jean-Louis Dasseux and Daniela Carmen Oniciu, to design a pill to lower LDL—like Lipitor.

"He encouraged us to be creative," says Oniciu, now living in France and working as an advisor to biotech start-ups. She and Dasseux started with molecules that mimicked certain lipids (the molecules that make up fat), hoping to find one that would trick the body into stopping lipid production. They made hundreds of different compounds, varying their length and attaching different functional groups of atoms, searching for the most potent version.

And potency alone wasn't enough. To work, the drug would have to be absorbed into the bloodstream, penetrate body tissues, and not break down prematurely. It couldn't antagonize other drugs. And it had to be safely removed from the body.

The chances of finding a compound that hit all those marks were slim. "At a certain point it's serendipity and luck," says Oniciu. "Everything has to fall into place."

And then everything did. In 2001 Oniciu synthesized ETC-1002—the molecule that, nineteen years later, would win FDA approval as Nexletol.

Only later did Esperion's researchers discover how ETC-1002 worked. By a stroke of luck, the molecule is inert until it makes it to the liver, where a liver enzyme converts it to an active form. There it interferes with another enzyme that's crucial for building cholesterol molecules. That reduces cholesterol production in the liver.

"We've tricked the [liver cell] into believing that it doesn't have enough cholesterol," Cramer explains. "The cell says, 'Oh, I don't have enough cholesterol, I'm going to take cholesterol from the environment.' "

The liver pulls LDL from the bloodstream, which prevents plaque from building up in arteries and causing atherosclerosis. And because the drug is only active in the liver, there are few side effects.

As Esperion progressed, Pfizer seized control of Warner-Lambert and the Ann Arbor labs. In 2004 it added to its Ann Arbor empire by buying Esperion and its drug pipeline, including ETC-1002, for $1.3 billion.

Newton stayed on, but Pfizer disbanded the Esperion organization and shelved ETC-1002, leaving it for dead. And when Pfizer abandoned the Ann Arbor labs, Newton was left with no research future at the company. That's when he decided to launch a new Esperion—and resume development of ETC-1002.

"Roger Newton actually asked me to go out to dinner and said, 'We need to get this compound back from Pfizer so we can develop it as a drug,' " recalls Cramer. "Had he not pulled it out of Pfizer it wouldn't be here today, period." After a year negotiating, Newton had to pay Pfizer only $5 million, a pittance in the pharma world.

In 2008, Newton's new Esperion was in business. But the money he paid for ETC-1002 was just a down payment. Getting it approved would take a dozen years of laboratory work and human trials, and those are enormously expensive.

Newton raised the initial money by convincing several venture capital funds and individuals to buy into his vision. His track record with Lipitor certainly helped, says Cramer, "but at the end of the day he still went up there and put his name on the line."

Newton raised $57 million for Esperion between 2008 and its initial public stock offering in 2013. The company to date has raised and spent more than $700 million.

Pfizer could have shared in the rewards. Small biotechs like Esperion typically partner with larger companies to mount the huge trials necessary for FDA approval. In 2011 Newton approached Pfizer with a collaboration offer—but the pharma giant turned him down. "They did not have an interest," says Mayleben.

So Newton and Esperion forged on alone. In 2012, Newton brought on Mayleben as CEO and transitioned to executive chairman and then to board member. Meanwhile, ETC-1002 moved slowly but steadily forward, along with Nexlizet, which combines the Nexletol molecule with an older cholesterol drug into a single pill. The drugs are designed for the minority of people who either can't tolerate statins like Lipitor (mainly because of muscle pain) or who need to lower their cholesterol level more than statins alone can achieve.

> **"Roger Newton actually asked me to go out to dinner and said, 'We need to get this compound back from Pfizer so we can develop it as a drug,' recalls biologist Clay Cramer. "Had he not pulled it out of Pfizer, it wouldn't be here today, period."**

Esperion sponsored five different "phase-three" trials to prove the drugs worked, enrolling more than 4,000 people. Nexletol, added to a statin, lowered LDL cholesterol an average of 18 percent compared to a statin plus a placebo pill, and did so with only minor side effects. Nexlizet, given alone, lowered LDL 38 percent compared to a placebo. These results virtually guaranteed FDA approval, says Derek Archila, a biotech analyst at the investment bank Stifel in Boston.

Most biotechs live and die without getting a drug approved, and the vast majority of clinical trials fail. Esperion scored with its first two shots on goal. "I don't think it's fully sunk in," says Mayleben. "Given all the time that's passed and … how rare it is to get a drug approved. Or, for that matter, to get two drugs approved in a week." Mayleben expects another milestone, full European approval, this month.

How big could Nexletol and Nexlizet get? Based on interviews with doctors and key opinion leaders, Archila forecasts peak sales of about $3 billion in 2029. (Anything over $1 billion is considered a blockbuster drug.) He expects Nexlizet especially to be the first thing cardiologists prescribe to patients who can't take statins, or who must limit their statin dose. "You have this combination product that's relatively cheap, easy to prescribe," Archila says.

Now Esperion is working on a new pill combining Nexletol and Lipitor. If it works, that 100 percent Roger Newton and Ann Arbor product could be the most powerful cholesterol-lowering drug known.

Newton, meanwhile, is finally stepping back: he retired last May and moved up north.

"He's living his best life," Mayleben says. "I think he's even doing a little bit of farming." ■

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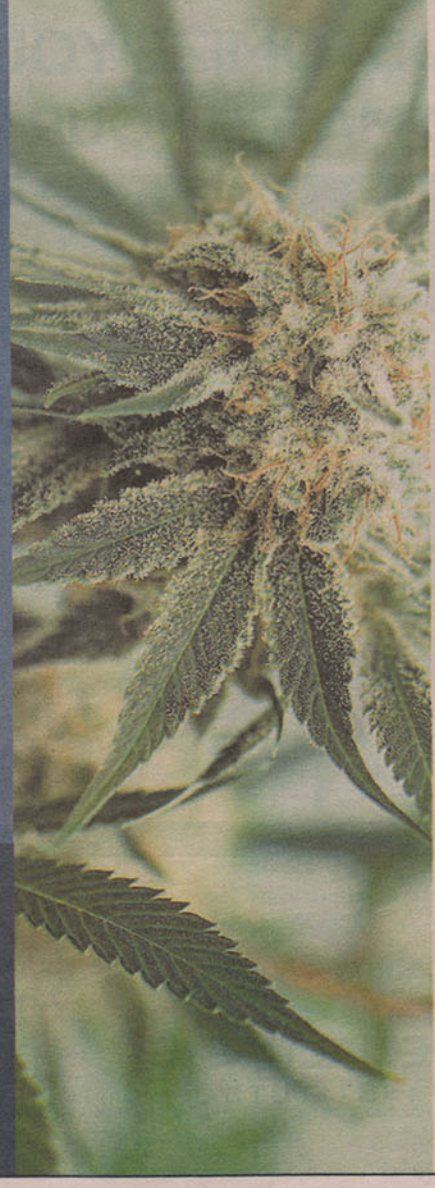

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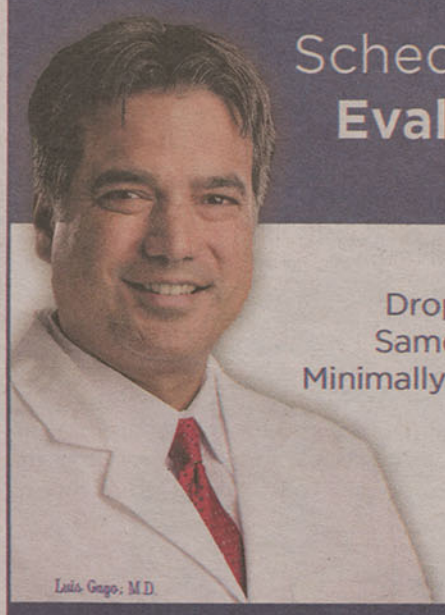

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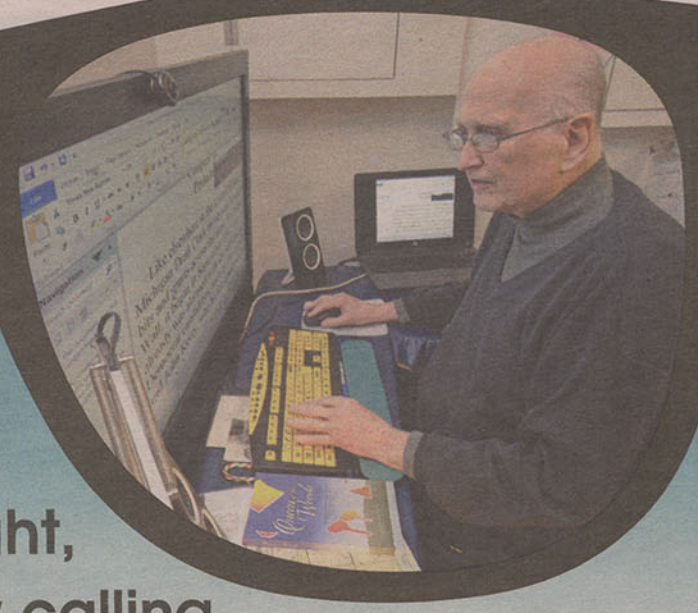

by Cynthia Furlong Reynolds

"Macular degeneration was a terrible diagnosis for a librarian, writer, reader, publisher, historian, and art lover," says Ed Wall. He was fifty-five years old when he was diagnosed; twenty-two years later, he is legally blind. His Pittsfield Township home office is full of great works of art that he can appreciate only in his memory.

Blindness was especially devastating, he says, because "I learn, remember, think, and write visually. I can't absorb what I hear. In college, I wrote reams of notes, then took them back to my room, reread them, and finally understood what the professor was saying."

For six years, Wall struggled with depression and frustration—until a longtime friend, Ford engineer John Whitaker, offered to help him find adaptive technologies that could help compensate for his vision loss. Initially, they tried screen readers with an interface based on speech. That failed, so they bought a forty-two-inch television that they combined with a screen-magnifying program and a low-vision keyboard with black and yellow keys to heighten visual contrast.

Whitaker glued rubber dots on some keys so Wall could position his hands accurately, and he found an inexpensive screen-reading program that allowed Wall to highlight text. He listens and relistens to the text until he can visualize it.

Thanks to this technology, Wall began to write again. Now he works on projects that would daunt someone with 20-20 vision, starting with histories close to home. In the past decade, he's written five books on Pittsfield's history and has an even longer list of books he wants to write.

"Because I can't see, I have to memorize all the content before I can write a chapter, so the process has to be completely immersive—and it can't be rushed," he says. Peering into a magnifying glass that is trained on the giant computer screen, he studies original materials, maps, tables, analyses, and surveys.

His wife, Mary Ellen, helps track down genealogical facts and transcribes township survey notes, patent records, and personal correspondence. She also describes the locations and relationships on maps and repeats the descriptions until Wall can visualize them.

He then synthesizes the information and composes and memorizes his text before typing it. "When one chapter is completed, I literally clear out my research memory before I start the next chapter."

In his early thirties, Wall served on the Pittsfield Township board. "Old-timers attended board meetings for entertainment, and, as issues were being discussed, they often interjected stories about places, people, and historical context," he says. He spent hours after meetings talking with them. Years later, he realized that if he didn't attempt to capture some of their accounts, they would be lost forever.

His mission is to preserve the memories and fading records of the first community in Washtenaw County to establish a school, cemetery, and church. According to Wall's *Emerging from Wilderness: Formation and First Settlement of Pittsfield Township, Michigan,* the township took shape in June 1824, when pioneers from upstate New York visited the Michigan Territory General Land Office in Detroit to purchase farmland for $1.25 an acre.

"In four days, the land on all four corners of Packard and Platt was purchased, forming the nucleus of the future Malletts Creek community," Wall says. Malletts Creek and an Indian trail (now Washtenaw Ave.) crossed the properties bought by Ezra and Charles Maynard, Lewis Barr, Claudius Britton Jr., and Luke Whitmore. Ezra and Charles Maynard were the original owners of what today is Cobblestone Farm.

In the summer of 1825, Luke Whitmore donated land for the first school and church on a corner of his farm (facing what is now Packard Rd., one-quarter mile east of Platt). Under the canopy of a huge oak tree, Elzada Fairbrother taught sixteen students sitting on logs, and on Sundays the community gathered there for religious services. By the end of the summer, the pioneers had constructed the Malletts Creek Schoolhouse with logs from Whitmore's farm. "This was the first school in Washtenaw County," Wall says.

His self-appointed role as Pittsfield's historian is the latest turn on a winding career path. Wall was born into a Quaker family in Cherokee, Iowa, and met his future wife, Mary Ellen, at Olney Friends School in southern Ohio. Then they headed to the University of Iowa. "I was not a serious student in high school," he says—he was more interested in racing hot rods—"but I challenged myself to do better in college."

By taking twenty-six credit hours each term, in four years he earned a triple major in history, political science, and Chinese language and civilization. Married at twenty, the Walls moved to Ann Arbor in 1963, so Ed could work on a master's in Chinese military history (1965) and a master's in library science (1966) as a Ford Foundation Scholar. After graduation, he joined the staff of the U-M Dearborn library as reference librarian. Within a year, he was head librarian, and in six years he expanded the library's collection from 50,000 to 120,000 volumes. Meanwhile, they had four children and now boast of twelve grandchildren. "Our family is our greatest accomplishment," he says.

Wall planned the U-M Dearborn's Mardigian Library, arranging it so that the first floor could later be converted into an art museum. And in 1968, the Walls opened Pierian Press, based in a house on Golfside Rd. not far from their own home. They published reference materials whose titles ranged from *Poole's Index to Periodical Literature, 1802–1881* to *A Matter of Fact: Statements Containing Statistics on Current Social, Economic, and Political Issues* and reference books on contemporary culture (including the Beatles, Elvis Presley, and the *Andy Griffith Show*). Wall also founded and edited three library-related journals.

Meanwhile, the Walls became prodigious art collectors. "We were conventional at first, investing in works by established artists, such as Picasso, Matisse, Dubuffet, and Miro, but we soon began collecting works by lesser-known artists," Wall says. "We supported a number of emerging artists, acquiring their work and writing their exhibition catalogs. Most of the artwork in our collection is associated with special friendships."

Three of those friends now have museums dedicated to their work. One is internationally renowned painter Arthur Secunda, who has roots in Michigan. The Walls met him in Detroit in 1971 and went on to acquire 2,000 of his works. They have donated more than 500 of those to museums across the U.S. and Europe, including the U-M Museum of Art. In 2012, 500 other Secunda works from their collection served as the basis of the Arthur Secunda Museum at Cleary University in Howell.

Wall lists seven careers—to date: "My family, library administration, publishing, local government, running regional political campaigns, championing studio glass, and promoting Arthur Secunda's body of work." He has written a memoir of his childhood, *Turning Pages*, and two novels for his grandchildren. These, as well as *Emerging from Wilderness,* were published under his Pierian Press aegis. The manuscripts for the other Pittsfield histories are waiting for his favorite book designer to find time in her schedule. Among future writing projects are books based on his enormous art collection.

Wall serves on the township's Arts & Culture Excellence Committee and keeps tabs on the Cleary museum. At one time he also raised old and rare tulips, some dating to 1585, but he couldn't find adaptive technologies to help him care for them, so he was forced to abandon that hobby.

"All of us have obstacles in life. I have not been able to overcome them all, but that makes me appreciate all the more those that I have." ■

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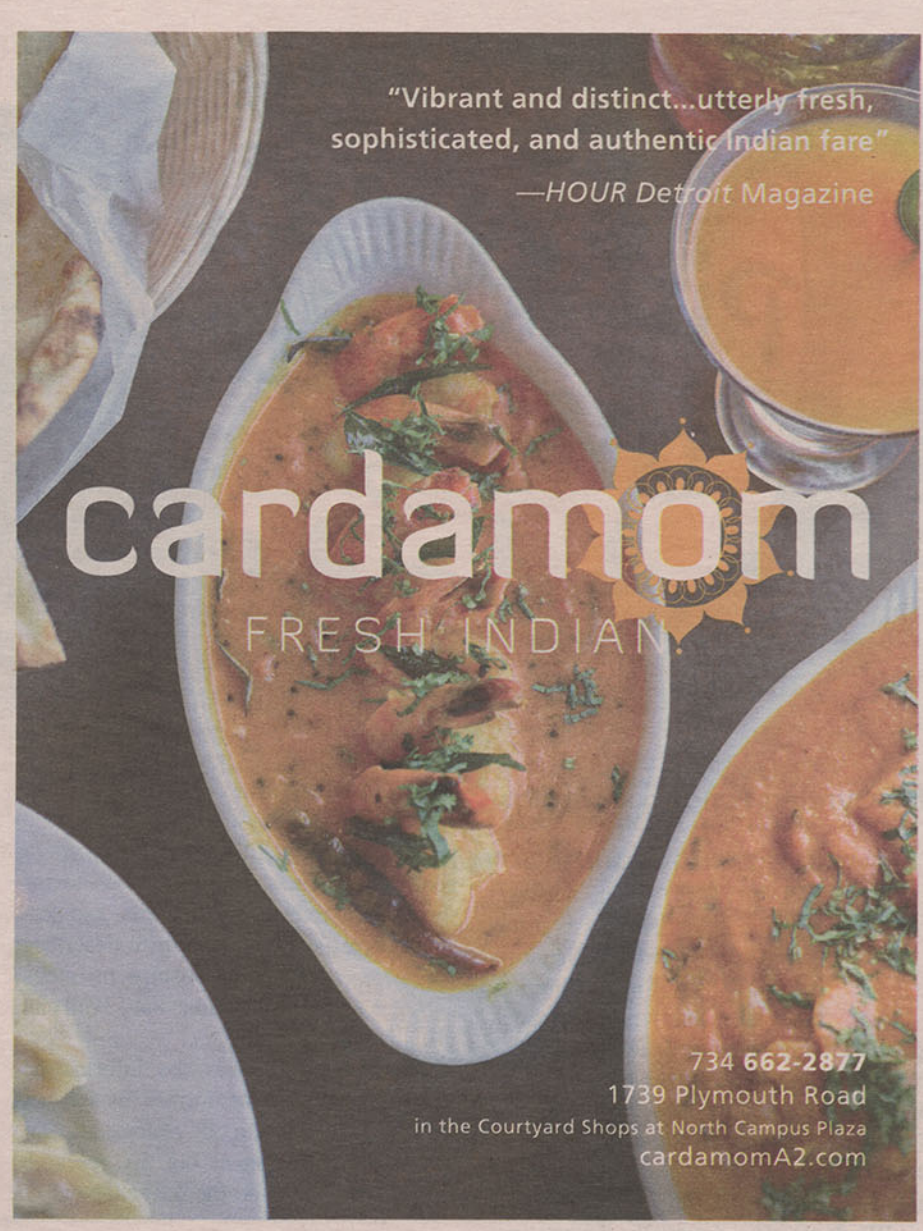

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Carryout and Kindness

Ann Arbor restaurants adapt to the shutdown.

"In the thirty-five-plus years that we have been serving the Ann Arbor area, we have never had to deal with anything like we are today," says Paesano owner Michael Roddy.

As the coronavirus pandemic spread, restaurants began paying more attention than ever to restaurant codes and health and safety standards. Many instituted measures to keep safe distances between customers, to keep everyone's hands sanitized upon entry and departure, and to scrupulously maintain kitchens, dining tables, and staff health. Then, in mid-March, Governor Whitmer ordered all restaurants and bars in Michigan to close their dining rooms at least through the end of the month, catapulting them into a new territory. Some had strong carryout businesses already; others scrambled to launch one.

The Downtown Development Authority slapped orange bags on hundreds of street parking spots, designating them as fifteen-minute parking for take-out customers and delivery drivers. Restaurants rearranged their staffs and menus for life without dine-in customers. And many began thinking about ways to help.

Even before the governor's order, Lisa McDonald and her **TeaHaus** team decided to provide free meals for stranded college students, seniors, and youngsters out of school. On March 10, the first day of the public schools' shutdown, McDonald and four employees assembled 300 box lunches and began distributing them from the Eat More Tea shop at 211 E. Ann. They also delivered 150 boxes to seniors in low-income Avalon Housing.

"We're not checking IDs to make sure people qualify," a breathless McDonald said, taking a two-minute breather from the lunch packing. "If people are hungry, they're hungry. And we want to help make sure no one in our community stays hungry."

TeaHaus has partnered with Phil Attee, regional sales manager for Mammoth Distilling, Children's Creative Center owner Laurie Atwood, and Megan and Mike Turriff of M4 beer wholesaler to continue distributing lunches to students in need.

"We know that the school districts are distributing lunches, but there are still holes to fill," McDonald says, noting that some families can't reach a school's lunch drop-off location easily and schools don't provide food on weekends.

McDonald hopes to expand their efforts to offer a pay-what-you-can dinner program for families affected by the crisis. Once restaurant closures were announced, her team began calling local eateries, offering to rescue their surplus perishable foods so they don't go unused.

Eat More Tea opens its doors for box lunch pickups between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. and dinners between 5 and 6:30 p.m. "These aren't just for school kids," McDonald says. "They're also for people who have become jobless or people who are working hard to make ends meet in $12-per-hour positions." She quickly adds, "I don't want to take away from the food pantries' work, but this is an opportunity to help our neighbors when they are in need. And I want to keep my staff working."

"We took the TeaHaus lead and decided to offer free lunches to kids out of school. I was inspired by what Lisa [McDonald] was doing," says Conor O'Neill's general manager Caroline Kaganov. "The first day we made thirty and had five left, but the word has gotten out."

Donations have been pouring in from TeaHaus customers who learned about her project—$3,000 in grocery store gift cards and cash during the first few days. (Donations can be made on TeaHaus.com or in person at TeaHaus or Eat More Tea.)

"We took the TeaHaus lead and decided to offer free lunches to kids out of school. I was inspired by what Lisa was doing," says Caroline Kaganov, general manager of **Conor O'Neill's Irish Pub** on S. Main "We've had a growing clientele for our free lunches. The first day we made thirty and had five left, but the word has gotten out. We don't ever want any child to go hungry."

First thing in the morning, Conor O'Neill's chef and kitchen staff assemble box lunches, which are kept in a cooler in the front of the restaurant. Parents and children are welcome to take meals between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. "We're like everyone else: taking it one day at a time, maintaining high standards of cleanliness, and focusing on our carryout business," Kaganov says.

Conor O'Neill's employs forty people, and Kaganov says she intends to keep them as long as she can so that, "when we reopen our doors, all the familiar faces will still be here. We've always done takeout, so that's not new for us, but we never focused solely on takeout, which is what we're doing now."

"This is such a great, giving community," Kaganov says. "When people heard about our lunch program, they called or came in and asked if they could donate. I told them we've got it covered now, but when this is all over, come in, have a pint with us, and tip our waitstaff."

"We're closed when it comes to in-house dining, but we're still in the business of feeding people," notes Ahmad Hodroj, owner of the **Palm Palace** (palmpalace.com, 734–606–0706). "We know an increasing number of people have been affected by Covid-19. So many have lost their jobs or need to stay home to take care of children or older family members. That puts so much pressure on families. We wanted to help."

The Palm Palace offers free children's meals daily—a novelty and challenge for chefs who specialize in Middle Eastern cuisine, not chicken fingers. "We had a joint discussion about what kids like to eat, then we went out and bought foods targeted to kids," Hodroj says.

He also bought 200 specialty food containers and self-sealing bags to maintain hygiene. Although he doesn't know how many lunches he provided during the first week schools closed, in less than a week he had to restock his containers and bags.

"The meals are ready and available any time we're open, from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.," he says. "We don't want anyone to hesitate to come or feel embarrassed about getting help."

If parents order online, they will see a special code that indicates no charge. If they come in person, it's free too. "They are welcome to as many meals as their family needs. One woman came for nine meals. She said she had a lot of kids and was watching her sister's family."

Hodroj says he intends to keep his staff fully employed. "We're doing our best to help everyone make lemonade from lemons. I can't begin to tell you how blessed I feel that we are able to do this. It's a great cause. … God willing, we'll continue running this program. God is great. And we all hope this storm goes away soon."

Zingerman's Deli is taking online (zingermansdeli.com) and phone (734–663–3663) orders for its full menu. **Zingerman's Roadhouse** (zingermansroadhouse.com, 734–663–3663) and **Miss Kim** (misskimannarbor.com, 734–275–0099) have menus online, but are taking orders by phone only. The southside **Zingerman's Bakeshop** (zingermansbakehouse.com/bakeshop, 734–761–2095) and **Cream Top Shop** (zingermanscreamery.com/cream-top-shop, 734–929–0500) are offering pickup service.

Conor O'Neill's (conoroneills.com, 734–665–2968) was one of many places that quickly rethought takeout services and menus. "Conors Curbside" features a limited menu of in-house favorites ("Fish and chips is our biggest item, followed by shepherd's pie and corned beef and cabbage," says Kaganov) plus a new "Feed 4 for $40" family meal, featuring a salad, choice of four entrées (shepherd's pie,

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chicken pot pie, macaroni and cheese, or fisherman's pie), and bread pudding. Staff will deliver the meals to customers' cars, either in front of the restaurant or in the lot behind—where parking is now free—between 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Across Main St., takeout and delivery options at **Jolly Pumpkin** (jollypumpkin.com, 734–913–2730) include a "date night in a box … Your choice of a starter, pizza and two 375ml bottles of Jolly Pumpkin beer for $20!"

Paesano (paesanoannarbor.com, 734–971–0484) has a "Curbside 2Go" menu of favorite Italian entrées for takeout, as well as family-style orders for three and wine. "Everyone wants things to go back to normal as quickly as possible, so we can resume our normal routines and enjoy our summer movies on the patio and fun wine dinners. Until then, we will be here to continue providing dining options for lunch and dinner," Roddy says. "No-contact delivery (through DoorDash) is available upon request," the website notes.

"Takeout is new for us, but we're giving it our best effort," says Dan Sutter, general manager of the downtown Knight's Steakhouse. "Our standards have always been stellar, and we're keeping them that way."

"Takeout is new for us, but we're giving it our best effort," says Dan Sutter, general manager of the downtown **Knight's Steakhouse** (knightsrestaurants.com, 734–887–6899). "Our traffic has always been very dependent on U activities. When the U closed, it crippled our business." And then came the governor's mandate to close dining rooms. "We're now in a position to miss graduation weekend, three days where we typically serve 1,000 or 1,200 meals a day."

Initially Sutter's biggest concern was handling his supplies of produce and fresh foods. "I have six days to move through those perishable goods, and food pantries and homeless shelters have strict regulations about donations."

Sutter plans to offer a complete menu, with food at the same price as in-house and wine and beer 50 percent off. He plans to "blast" social media platforms and hope for the best. "We may have to adjust, but we'll take it one day at a time. There's no handbook for confronting this situation. Meanwhile, we're taking health issues, cleanliness, and service very, very seriously. Weeks ago we launched a quadruple-down effort so people can feel safe ordering food. Our standards have always been stellar, and we're keeping them that way."

Sutter encourages all takeout customers to prepay with a credit card over the phone to minimize contact with money and staff.

The **Grange Kitchen** on W. Liberty (grangekitchenandbar.com, 734–646–2968) is offering its usual specialties, including wine and beer, as well as a new family-size meal plan for carryout. Nearby, **Pacific Rim** (pacificrimbykana, 734–662–9303) offers takeout with curbside pickup, as well as delivery options.

Spencer (spencerannarbor.com, 734–369–3979) is doing both dinner takeout and offering frozen foods (apple galette, rye biscuits for four, ricotta tortellini, chicken *paprikash*) for later, with cooking instructions. Pickup is available 4 to 8 p.m., every day but Tuesday.

Vinology on S. Main (vinologya2.com, 734–222–9841) offers curbside-to-go dining, including bottles of wine "at competitive prices." Staff will bring orders to curbside cars.

The new **Blue LLama Jazz Club** (bluellamaclub.com, 734–372–3200) is hoping to reopen April 8, but meanwhile is doing dinner takeout and livestreaming performances by local artists. Anyone with tickets for canceled or rescheduled events can transfer them to new show dates or request refunds.

Shalimar (shalimarrestaurant.com, 734–663–1500) is offering free delivery to Ann Arbor addresses. Customers can collect their order from the alley in back or parking spaces along Main St. Servers will bring a food bag to the car, "maintaining distance and wearing gloves."

Palio (palioannarbor.com, 734–930–6100) has carryout and delivery between 4 and 8 p.m. Parking is available in front or beside the restaurant. The owners say that soon customers can use DoorDash for delivery.

Bløm Meadworks (drinkblom.com, 734–548–9729) offers curbside pickup Wednesday through Saturday from 5 to 9 p.m. You can also order four-packs, growlers, howlers, and kegs of anything on tap.

The Gandy Dancer (muer.com, 734–769–0592) offers takeout and pickup between 11 a.m. and 8 p.m., with "a limited menu to maximize our resources," says manager Charlene Gulliford. "Fortunately, we already had GrubHub in place … We'll also deliver takeout to a customer's car."

This is just a sampling gathered quickly as the Observer went to press. The 2019–2020 Ann Arbor Observer City Guide, online at AnnArborObserver.com, lists every restaurant in the city, including information on takeout and delivery.

"And don't forget to buy gift cards," urges Ed Davidson, owner of Bivouac and a member of the Greater State Street Business Association. "Those cards can help a business stay solvent during this time."

"I wish we had a crystal ball and could predict how long these extraordinary measures will be necessary," Conor O'Neill's Kaganov says. "But we don't. So we'll make the best of the situation and help each other—businesses, customers, neighbors, and our employees—in as many ways as we can."

—Cynthia Furlong Reynolds

The Zingerman's Times

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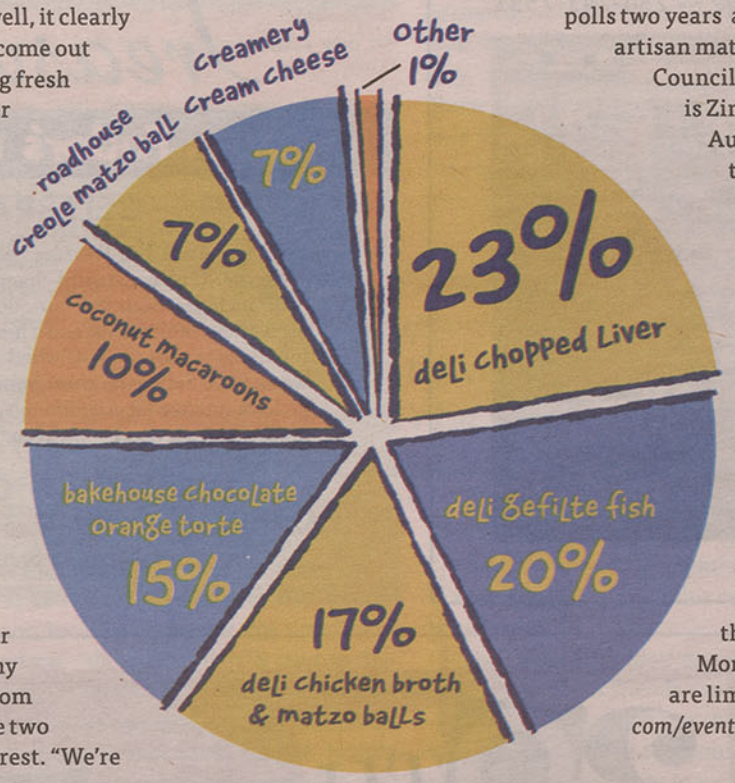
Zingerman's top ten passover products pop to top of polls

Times sources in Ann Arbor are sharing the latest polls showing the popularity of Zingerman's many top-notch Passover products during this year's primary season. As of Super Tuesday, chopped liver is holding onto a three point lead over gefilte fish (margin of error +/- two points). "We were surprised to see gefilte fish move up so much," said one national expert. "While it often catches flak from folks who don't know it well, it clearly has a very loyal following that's willing to come out to the polls. The Zingerman's offering being fresh and handmade gives it a big advantage over the usual commercial versions which are sold canned or bottled."



Coming up quick in the polls is Zingerman's Bakehouse chocolate orange torte. "It belies the typical beliefs about Passover desserts being bland and dry," said one professor of Passover productology. "The dark chocolate ganache, the prominent presence of so much fresh citrus zest, the toasted almonds. It makes for one seriously excellent way to serve dessert during Passover." Zingerman's Bakehouse coconut macaroons have continued to show strongly as well. "They've won a loyal following year round now," said co-managing partner Amy Emberling. "But at Passover, they really zoom up in popularity." Nor is the support for the two Bakehouse specialties limited to local interest. "We're shipping significant volumes of both the macaroons and the chocolate orange torte," said an anonymous source inside Zingerman's Mail Order.

The classic Zingerman's house-made chicken broth and matzo balls are still holding their own in the polls as well. "The matzo balls jumped in the polls two years ago when the Deli started using the Matzo Project's artisan matzo meal," explained one expert from the National Council on Passover Eating (NCPE). Coming up in the polls is Zingerman's Roadhouse's Creole Matzo Ball soup. Author of *Matzo Ball Gumbo*, Marcie Ferris, reports that Creole matzo balls came out of a blending of Eastern European Jewish cooking tradition with New Orleans Creole seasonings.

A surprising entry into rankings this year? Zingerman's Creamery's handmade, artisan cream cheese. "I spread on their cream cheese, sprinkle a bit of fleur de sel and fresh ground Tellicherry black pepper, and it takes Passover matzo to the next level," said one promoter.

Nationally Known Author Joan Nathan Coming for Dinner April 14

The *Times* has learned that cookbook author Joan Nathan is making a special appearance at the Roadhouse on Tuesday, April 14 to prepare a Moroccan Passover meal. Sources indicate that seats are limited, and can be booked at *zingermansroadhouse.com/events*.

miss kim recognized as semi-finalist for national james beard foundation award

One of 20 chosen for "Best Chef, Great Lakes Region" is Ji Hye Kim, managing partner and chef at Zingerman's Korean restaurant Miss Kim. Industry experts across the country are in agreement that the recognition is well deserved. Editor of *Whetstone Magazine*, Stephen Satterfield says, "Her food is one of a kind, conveying brilliance on all levels, intellectual, technical and conceptual. She is beyond deserving of this honor!" *New York Times* reporter, Micki Maynard, shares, that Kim is "at the top of her game."

zingerman's roadhouse named beard semi-finalist in service for 2nd straight year

Two miles west of Miss Kim, Zingerman's Roadhouse received its own recognition from the prestigious James Beard Foundation. For the second year in a row the restaurant has been recognized as a semi-finalist for "Outstanding Hospitality." Out of nearly 700,000 restaurants in the country, the Roadhouse is one of 20 to receive this recognition! Others on the list include Black Trumpet Bistro in New Hampshire, Chez FonFon in Alabama, and Swan Oyster Bar in San Francisco. Finalists for the award will be announced by the James Beard Foundation in late April!

camp bacon speaker line up saturday, june 6th

The main event at Zingerman's 11th annual Camp Bacon® includes ten smart speakers, at least a dozen different bacon, two meals, tons of learning, a good bit of laughing and loads of good eating. And best of all, it supports the Southern Foodways Alliance, Washtenaw County 4H, and the Shelter Association of Washtenaw County.

Times sources have learned speakers include chef Alon Shaya from New Orleans, historian Adrian Miller on The Hidden History Of African American Women In Barbecue, fifth generation farmer Jenni Harris and her family's work to raise Iberico pigs in Georgia, award-winning writer and cooking teacher Molly Stevens from Vermont, ham-curer Ronny Drennan from Kentucky, Ashley Freeman, author of the soon-to-be-released *Duke's Mayonnaise Cookbook* on the best BLTs, and more. The full line up is listed at zingermanscampbacon.com.

Word from the camp director is that seats are filling fast and spaces are very limited. National bacon experts are recommending potential campers book their seats quickly before they sell out. "It's a one of a kind intellectual and culinary experience," said one leader in foodways education.

attention food lovers!

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Selling through the shutdown

"I'm a history buff, and to my way of thinking, we're entering into a time period that looks and sounds a lot like World War II, when everyone had a common cause, a common goal, a common threat, and common worries," says Ed Davidson, owner of **Bivouac** on State St. (bivouacannarbor.com 734–761–6207). "Now is the time to draw together as a community and work for the common good."

"I wasn't around when our business struggled through the Depression and endured World War II," says Bill Godfrey, whose family has owned **Van Boven** men's wear for ninety-nine years (vanboven.com, 734–665–7228). "But this feels like it must be a similar challenge financially and socially." Van Boven closed in March for what Godfrey hoped would be just a couple of weeks but is "relying on our customers and our community to remember us and to work with us during the coming weeks and months."

In a heartfelt letter to her community, Molly Mast-Koss explained why she is keeping seventy-eight-year-old **Mast Shoes** open (mastshoes.com, 734–662–8118). "You will play a key role in keeping our local economy healthy in the coming weeks and months," she wrote. "Now is the time to support local businesses by making as many purchases as possible from them—ours and/or others in Washtenaw County … I am driving shoes to our customers' doors the same day you call and order them. All of us are practicing stringent health and safety guidelines. A few minutes speaking on the phone with an employee (and fellow member of your community) at one of our local shops will be good for you, good for them, and good for Ann Arbor's chances of making it through this crisis intact."

"The coming weeks—or months—are going to be a struggle," notes Scott Hirth, whose father cofounded the **M Den** athletic apparel chain in 1978 (mden.com, 800–462–5836). "We all have to do our best to stay in business and help support our fellow businesspeople."

Like just about every retailer, Hirth is promoting online sales, offering free shipping as well as curbside pickup and same-day delivery to nearby addresses. He estimates that the M Den's seven locations employ between 160 and 180 people. "Everyone, as of right now, will keep their jobs. None will be impacted," Hirth says. "But time will tell what measures will be forced upon us."

Like Van Boven, Bivouac closed its doors temporarily in mid-March. That same day, Davidson sent an urgent message to other members of the State Street District. At a socially distanced meeting outside Sava's, they discussed strategies for surviving the health and economic crises. Their ad on p. 12 echoes Molly Mast-Koss: shop local and remain loyal to businesses that serve the community.

"It is critically important that people support local businesses at this time," says Bivouac's Ed Davidson. "Otherwise they'll start to disappear."

"It is critically important that people support local businesses at this time," says Davidson. "Otherwise they'll start to disappear." In addition to shopping online, he's encouraging people to buy gift cards. "During the world wars, people bought war bonds to support the war effort and redeemed them afterwards," he points out. "If our customers buy our gift cards, they'll infuse cash into a perilous situation many of us face, and they'll help keep us going."

For those people who are or will become homebound, libraries and bookstores hope they'll open a book or listen to audible books. The **Ann Arbor District Library's** branches have all closed, but they are rolling out virtual programming for their patrons. The staff will begin live streaming programs from their homes, including story times and kids' crafts, as well as adult programs such as trivia games and book discussions. Its popular online summer game—rebooted as Bummer Game—is now live. Meanwhile, like downtown businesses, the libraries are maintaining their physical distance—including asking patrons not to return books, CDs, or DVDs until further notice—in the interest of keeping Covid-19 at bay.

Literati (literati.com, 734–585–5567) has closed its bookshop but not its shelves. The parents of young children, Mike and Hilary Gustafson were one of the earliest businesses to make the decision to close their doors. On March 13, they announced they would continue selling books by phone or online orders and would charge only $1 to ship them. Within three days they were flooded with more than 800 online orders.

"We are so, so grateful for your support so far. This helps us keep going," the Gustafsons posted online. "We are working hard. Thank you for your patience and for giving us a fighting chance. We are grateful to be in this community of book lovers."

The Gustafsons have requested that the best support their friends can offer is to order books that say "on our shelves now"—books in their current inventory—as much as possible. In addition to pickup and mail order, they're making local deliveries by e-assist cargo bike, on loan from Human Electric Hybrids in Kerrytown. HEH owners Jim Summers and Kim Mayes also have loaners out to Kerrytown's Spun yarn shop and the Detroit Street Filling Station restaurant and have more available to local businesses that can use them (human-electric-hybrids.com, 734–929–5995).

Nicola's Books (nicolasbooks.com, 734–662–0600) canceled all events, including the weekly kids story times and book clubs through the end of April. The store remains open, however. "We continue to follow State of Michigan guidelines for safe gatherings and are following recommended social distancing practices and cleaning protocols to maintain a safe place for our staff, customers and community," they emailed on March 19. "We plan to be here for you as long as it's deemed safe for our staff, customers, and community." They're also offering free media mail shipping on web orders and curbside pickup.

"We're lucky. We don't have perishable merchandise to worry about. But we are reeling with the sudden urgency to change everything about our business overnight," says Pete Sickman-Garner, co-owner of **Spun** in Kerrytown (spunannarbor.com, 734–780–7867). He and his wife, Carol, officially closed Spun's doors the week of March 16, but they can be found in the shop between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., every day for customers who want to drop by quickly for yarn or to ask questions about knitting. Otherwise, they answer the phone, process orders, and work with a friend who has volunteered to help them launch a website and online business presence. Within three days of Spun's closing, customers had submitted fifteen orders—which had previously been a month's worth. "We're very grateful," Sickman-Garner says. "Our customers have been very supportive." One customer called to ask how they were doing then purchased a very large gift card, ensuring the business would have cash to work with.

"Closing shop wasn't a hard decision. It was so obviously the right thing to do, yet the picture for the future is very scary," he says. "No one knows what will happen. We have two young children at home, so we'll be dealing with online education as well as financial concerns. My father is eighty-five and lives around the corner from us—we're not going over there, but he is still a concern of ours. We're being ultra cautious with our customers, our family, and our staff. As long as we all stay healthy and people can afford our merchandise, we'll be good."

Like many other downtown businesses, **Rock Paper Scissors** (rockpaperscissorsshop.com, 734–531–

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Marketplace Changes

6264) is offering free shipping as well as curbside pick-up. **Roeda Studio** (roedastudio.com, 734–994–3389) and **WSG Gallery** (wsg-art.com) also are urging customers to shop online.

Mary Cambruzzi, owner of **Found** in Kerrytown, is striving to see the silver lining under the dark economic cloud. "FOUND is closed for a bit to do our part to #flattenthecurve," she reports. "In the meantime, here are some things we are doing: Owner and staff are looking at creative uses of time during closure with behind-the-scenes tasks that have been on our to-do list for some time. Organizing stockroom, files, and warehouse. Web updates, writing, bookwork, and planning fun events for when this ends." She adds, "If folks need a Found fix, our Instagram site, @foundgallery, Facebook, and website will provide options for shipping or local delivery."

Coffee at the Corner

Russ Furrha returns to Stadium and Main.

"It's symbolic of my journey," Russ Furrha says about the corner of Stadium and Main, where he is opening **Drip House Coffee Co.** He played football on two of the other corners—at Pioneer in high school, then in Michigan Stadium as a Wolverine. He later received his juris doctorate then worked in finance, but throughout he maintained an interest in coffee. (Furrha's family has operated coffee shops throughout the state for more than three decades.) He initially inquired with the previous owners of the corner space, who decided on a tanning salon instead; when the salon closed recently and the M Den's Scott Hirth acquired the land, Furrha finally scored his opportunity. In addition to latter-day coffeehouse staples like nitrogenated cold brew and "selfie-ccino" prints on foam, Furrha is excited about Japanese-style siphon-brewed coffee.

Furrha hopes Drip House will be the gathering place for Pioneer and U-M's South Campus, as well as the neighborhood. Besides being a brewing term, "drip" is slang for confidence. Affirmations will figure prominently throughout, from the uniforms to the cups. "We just want to be a place where people can come in and feel comfort."

With the ban on sit-down dining, though, they won't be able to linger for a while. Until it's lifted, Furrha says, he'll be doing takeout and offering delivery.

Drip House is a return to consumable goods for the one-time service station at Main and Stadium. Later Schneider's convenience store, it also hosted an art studio and two mobile-phone retailers over the years. And though its parking lot will continue to host the M Den's pop-up spirit wear store on Michigan game days, Furrha looks forward to serving the football crowds.

Drip House, 1336 S. Main. Mon.–Fri. 6 a.m.–8 p.m., Sat. 7:30 a.m.–8 p.m., Sun. 8 a.m.–8 p.m. driphousecoffee.com

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The Holiday Inn Ann Arbor near the University of Michigan has been rebranded as the DoubleTree by Hilton Ann Arbor North. **Guy Hollerin's,** the restaurant in the Holiday Inn for more than fifteen years, is now the **Arbor Tree Lounge.** Following a $9 million renovation, the hotel and restaurant have a fresh look and feel, with clean lines and a bright, open design. Gone are the dark colors and heavy wood furniture of Guy Hollerin's, and the U-M sports memorabilia has come down from the walls. The Arbor Tree Lounge has a light, cosmopolitan atmosphere, with sleek surfaces, wood flooring, and neutral tones. Heidi Keller, the chef since 2005, is delighted with the changes.

"It's like a dream come true," she says. "A lot of the time in these hotel renovations, food and beverage operations are the last places that get investment." The owners instead completely remade the restaurant with all new equipment. "They asked me to write the menu and design

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Russ Furrha played football for Pioneer and the U-M. Now he's claimed a third corner of Stadium and Main for his Drip House Coffee Co.

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Chef Heidi Keller was about to open the Arbor Tree Lounge when the dine-in ban hit.

the kitchen that would help carry out the menu," she adds.

Keller had trained at high-end Ann Arbor restaurants, and her personal taste veers towards lighter, vegetable-centered meals. Her innovative departures from Guy Hollerin's menu during the annual Restaurant Week demonstrated she could tackle the challenge of a menu overhaul. During Restaurant Week, "people were willing to try something new. They asked chefs to feature local ingredients on their menus, and we saw a huge response."

The new menu retains many favorites like burgers and steaks, but adds lighter preparations of classic American favorites, like pot roast tacos with chipotle peppers and pico de gallo. Keller buys from local growers like Tantré Farm and Fluffy Bottom Farms when she can, and from Preferred Brands near Detroit's Eastern Market, which buys from local farms before seeking products from out of state.

The restaurant was operating out of the ballroom while renovations were completed and was set to open March 16. "We were supposed to open on Monday. Instead, we got laid off on Tuesday. This is not how this week was supposed to go!" laughs Keller. The hotel has 217 rooms, but now fewer than twenty-five people check in daily, most for hospital services, so the owners decided not to keep the restaurant open. "My heart goes out to the waiters and all of the people who work hourly," says Keller.

Arbor Tree Lounge, 3600 Plymouth Rd. (734) 769–9800. Opening date TBA.

Briefly noted

The four-tenant shopping center at 2111 Packard is looking at big changes. Over the decades, the site has been home to Century House, a small department store; Hollywood Video, a downright large video rental store; Jack's Hardware, which continues to serve campus a few blocks north; and a few different pizza shops, as well as a Dom Bakeries location. For the past decade it has hosted an eclectic retail mix, including an industrial supply store, a restaurant, and two education centers.

Mi Compadre Mexican Restaurant was first to close. In February, an employee suggested that the family-owned restaurant's taco truck, "Godfather," might roll again in the future, and a handwritten postscript at the bottom of the farewell note encourages customers to follow them on Facebook.

The site is currently under contract to be purchased by Jackson Dearborn Partners, and the new owners-to-be are sharing a vision of a mixed-use residential development with apartments upstairs and retail spaces at ground level. This might sound similar to The George, a few blocks down Packard, which opened in 2018 on the site of the former Georgetown Mall shopping center. Ryan Tobias, of Jackson Dearborn, differentiates his group's project through architecture, promising the finished structure will be smaller (seventy-two apartments vs. 247 in The George) and more traditional in design. One of the concept drawings shows an angled, Flatiron-ish northwest corner that leverages the diagonal shape of the lot.

BgreenToday, on the west side of the building, emphasizes sustainability and environmental consciousness in their inventory of construction and home-improvement materials, as well as food-service supplies. BgreenToday arrived in 2010, coming from a smaller site in Colonial Plaza on South Industrial, to fill Hollywood Video's former streetside space. Daniel Stephens, owner of BgreenToday, says multiple years remain on his lease and he recently made upgrades to the showroom, including a new model kitchen. All but one of Bgreen's employees live within walking distance of the store. "There's not much going on right now," Stephens says, "so calm down."

Jackson Dearborn hosted an informational meeting for neighbors and community members in January. A second meeting scheduled for mid-March was postponed as COVID-19 began to spread in the Midwest; as the Observer went to press, the company was planning to reschedule and conduct the meeting online.

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The big sign at **Mr. Alan's Shoes,** on Washtenaw Ave., came down in early December and was quickly replaced with a new sign—**Snipes.**

Mr. Alan's TV commercials were ubiquitous on Detroit TV in the 1980s and 1990s. The rapid-fire "twenty-nine, or two-for-fifty" slogan was spoken by Michael Guido, who would later become mayor of Dearborn. Its Ann Arbor "Mr. Alan's Elite" location was smaller than its other stores with a focus on limited-edition and premium styles.

Last year, Deichmann, a multinational shoe retailer based in Germany, acquired Mr. Alan's, as well as Kicks USA, a similar regional chain based in Philadelphia. Both chains are now outlets of Snipes, a chain founded in Germany in 1998 and acquired by Deichmann in 2011. Snipes stores attract young customers by offering free WiFi and phone-charging stations.

❧ ❧ ❧

Bangkok Cuisine has reopened under new ownership as **Thai Spoon.** The extensive menu is largely unchanged, with many standard Thai favorites like curries, stir fries with sweet chile or brown sauce, noodles, soups, and half a dozen salad options. Thai Spoon does not serve alcohol but offers a range of beverages, including smoothies, bubble teas, and aloe vera drinks.

There are some new twists on the menu, most notably a lunch-box option available from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. for $9, which includes rice, salad, spring roll, and a choice of six main courses with either chicken, beef, shrimp, or tofu. Patrons can choose their level of spice, but beware—medium packs a punch!

Online ordering and delivery through DoorDash and Grubhub are available. The new owner may expand to a full-service restaurant by the end of the year.

Thai Spoon, 4119 Stone School Rd. (734) 975–0277. Mon.–Fri. 11 a.m.–9 p.m., Sat. noon–9 p.m., Closed Sun. thaispoonannarbor.com

Closings

Prickly Pear has been a Main St. institution since 1991, when Gary Pearce and his wife, Mary Miller, opened it as newlyweds. Pearce, a graduate of the Culinary Institute of America, was chef at the Campus Inn, but it was his dream to own a restaurant. Against the advice of their lawyer, the couple poured all their financial resources into opening the fifty-seat Southwestern restaurant. They inherited ornate wooden booths from the short-lived 328 S. Main, and university students painted the tin ceiling tiles, embossed with gothic floral designs, in a rainbow of colors. The family-friendly restaurant quickly became known for its kitchen with bright Southwestern flavors, goblet-sized margaritas, and warm, personal service, and developed a loyal following. The restaurant's kitchen and waitstaff are similarly devoted: many have worked there for over a decade, others since the beginning. As Pearce and Miller's family grew, Miller stepped back from her role in the restaurant but continued to manage the books. Eventually she opened Main Street Massage Therapy, which she runs out of a studio above the restaurant (she declined to be interviewed for this article).

When Pearce died suddenly in 2016, the future of the restaurant was in doubt. "The restaurant was his baby," says Ullisses Porto, who has been waiting tables at Prickly Pear since 2005. But the staff proved able to run the place without him. "We never needed a manager," says Porto. "We all know what to do."

After Pearce passed away, Miller eventually decided to sell her portion. Porto hopes that a buyer will appear, although investors may be wary in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic. Prickly Pear is closed until further notice. ■

Have a retail or restaurant change? Email marketplace@aaobserver.com.

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Summer CAMPS and Activities

Ann Arbor, we're with you as we all work on social distancing ourselves and keeping our loved ones safe. While things seem uncertain right now, one thing that is certain is warm weather is approaching, and summer will soon be upon us! Please continue to support our wonderful local summer camps by checking their websites for updates and scheduling details.

Champion Gymnastics Ann Arbor offers a variety of week-long summer camps, with full- or half-day options for kids ages 5 and up. A separate half day preschool camp is available in the morning for 3- and 4-year-olds as well. All campers will experience a variety of challenges and creative physical activities in a well-supervised and safe environment. Not only does Champion offer a full competitive team program, but check out Ninja Champs, much like American Ninja Warrior, beginning recreational, advanced boys' and girls' classes, as well as tumbling classes for cheerleaders, dancers, and those looking to obtain flips for martial arts. Looking for a more laid-back option with free play? Be sure to look into open gym programs where your child can run, jump, climb, and play.

Champion Gymnastics, champgymaa.com
7240 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor (734) 222–1810

The Discovery Center's early childhood program for kids age 2 ½–5 offers exciting programs and summer camps in a safe and nurturing environment. Kids will explore the newly expanded and upgraded playgrounds with innovative features, and a new woodland playground for outdoor play. The camp is child-initiated, play-based, and includes special programs, themed experiences and storytelling enrichment.

The Discovery Center, thediscoverycenterpreschool.com
775 South Maple, Ann Arbor (734) 663–7496

Kids are encouraged to grow, explore, discover, create, imagine, play, and have fun at **Emerson School**'s summer camps! Emerson believes each child is unique, and deserves the highest quality programs to help them grow and develop. Summer at Emerson is open to all students, regardless of school attended. Partnering again this year with Allen Creek Preschool, kids age 3–5 will enjoy a quality preschool camp experience in a safe, nurturing environment. Seven individual weeks of half- and full-day camps for children K–8 are offered.

Emerson School, emerson-school.org/summer
5425 Scio Church Rd., Ann Arbor (734) 665–5662

Don't miss this one-of-a-kind summer camp at **Gym America**! Summer camps and classes at Gym America offer the perfect blend of summer fun and essential gymnastic training. Participants will work with top-notch certified staff to improve fitness and develop new skills. Flexible scheduling is available, with all-day or half-day camp options. Check out GymAmericaGymnastics.com for class schedules and camp options, or call (734) 971–1667 for more information. Located at 5555 Hines Dr., Ann Arbor. Reserve your spot today and get SUMMER STRONG!

Gym America, GymAmericaGymnastics.com
5555 Hines Dr., Ann Arbor (734) 971–1667

Jump into **Michigan Swim Camp**! Olympian and NCAA All-American staff are looking forward to meeting your swimmer, ages 8–18. This is not a "learn to swim" camp, but a learn to be a better competitive swimmer camp. Campers are HD filmed daily and receive a written stroke analysis to encourage each swimmer to strive for excellence in and out of the pool. Swimmers 10–18 are welcome to stay in the dorms on campus, which might help you out with your busy summer schedule. Register now to reserve your space and choose between two different training camps—space is limited.

Michigan Swim Camps, camps.mgoblue.com
umswim1@gmail.com (734) 845–8596

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camp.ummnh.org

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Michigan Swim Camps are open to any and all entrants limited only by age and specified number of participants

SUMMER CAMP
AT STONE SCHOOL

Session	Date/Time
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Plants & Gardening	June 8-12, 9:30-12:30pm
Creepy Crawlers	June 15-19, 9:30am-12:30pm
Little Builders	June 22-26, 9:30-12:30pm
Water Exploration	July 6-10, 9am-4pm
Beach	July 13-17, 9am-4pm
Camping	July 20-24, 9am-4pm
Fairytales	July 27-31, 9:30am-12:30pm
Phonics	August 3-7, 9:30am-12:30pm

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WWW.STONESCHOOL.ORG

Summer CAMPS and Activities

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Rocks and Robots, rocksandrobots.com
Ann Arbor (734) 926–8056

The Rudolf Steiner School of Ann Arbor offers your child A Summer of Discovery with week-long camps for ages 4-6 and grades 1-8. Young children will have the joy of exploring baking, painting, water and sand play, summer crafts, and more. Older campers will be treated to a classic summer camp experience. They'll be outdoors exploring and developing hands-on skills while they collaborate on shelter-building and scavenger hunts, as well as spending some quality, unplugged time inside enjoying a range of fun activities including soap-making, baking and a variety of crafts. Camps run from 9 a.m.–3 p.m. with before and aftercare offered. Visit steinerschool.org for full information and registration.

Rudolf Steiner School of Ann Arbor
2775 Newport Rd., Ann Arbor (734) 995–4141

Stone School believes in promoting children's natural curiosity and love of exploration. Campers will learn essential social skills through game playing, plant flowers and care for a garden, construct bird houses, play in sprinklers, and enjoy a picnic outside! New this summer, children age 3–7 have the opportunity to enjoy enriching theme-based camp experiences at the historic Stone School House. All sessions run Monday–Friday, with half- and full-day options.

Stone School Cooperative Preschool, stoneschool.org

495 Earhart Rd., Ann Arbor (734) 665–0604

Join the **University of Michigan Museum of Natural History** for interactive, science-focused summer camps in the museum's new home! Every session is a new experience. There are nine different sessions covering topics such as astronomy, archaeology, paleontology, forensic science, zoology, and much more! New this year are four STEM sessions for middle school campers. Weeklong sessions for pre-k through middle school begin June 15 and run through August 14.

University of Michigan Museum of Natural History, camp.ummnh.org

Biological Sciences Building, 1105 N. University Ave., Ann Arbor (734) 764–0478

Outdoor group games, fun craft projects, nature hikes, water park visits, weekly hot dog lunches, swimming, educational nature programs, fishing, and more are offered at Washtenaw County Parks' Summer Day Camps. One-week sessions are offered at three locations: Independence Lake County Park, Meri Lou Murray Recreation Center, and Rolling Hills County Park. New for 2020–camp runs from 8 a.m.–6 p.m., Monday–Friday, making it a convenient option for working parents. To register, visit parksonline.ewashtenaw.org.

Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission, Washtenaw.org/parks

Independence Lake County Park, 3200 Jennings Rd., Whitmore Lake (734) 449–4437

Meri Lou Murray Recreation Center, 2960 Washtenaw Ave., Ann Arbor (734) 971–6355

Rolling Hills County Park, 7660 Stony Creek Rd., Ypsilanti (734) 484–9676

Register at parksonline.ewashtenaw.org

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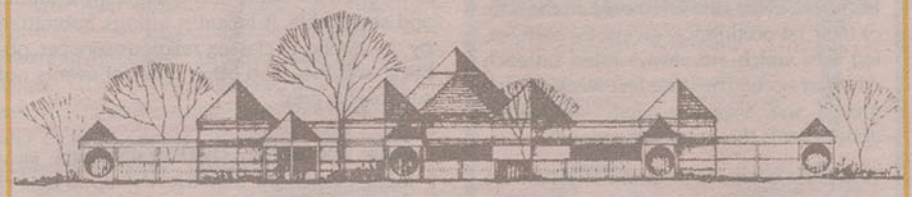

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TIPS FOR READING

Recurrent events are listed only on the date of their 1st occurrence, except for performing arts, which are always listed on each day they occur. Thus, the first week of each month will always contain information about events throughout the month.

Tickets for events highlighted in yellow are available at a2tix.com.

★ ***Denotes a free event***

We want to know about your event!

Please send us your press release by the **10th day of the preceding month.**

- **Email:** events@aaobserver.com
- **Phone:** 769–3175
- **Mail:** Calendar Editors, Ann Arbor Observer, 2390 Winewood, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48103
- **Fax:** 769–3375
- **After-hours drop box:** left side of the Observer's front door facing Winewood

What gets in?

We give priority to Ann Arbor entertainment and other leisure events, but we also list activities elsewhere in Washtenaw County deemed of interest to our readers. Please submit materials as early as possible; items submitted after the 10th might not be included in the print calendar but will be added to our online calendar at **AnnArborObserver.com.**

Due to space limitations, **many listings, especially for weekday daytime and recurrent events, appear only in the online calendar.** This is not only an expanded version of the print calendar but is also continually updated and searchable. It includes listings, submitted by the public, of classes, religious services, political activities, and other types of events not suitable for print.

Note: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all listed events are tentative. An up-to-date calendar of Events and Nightspots is available at AnnArborObserver.com

Whether these venues remain open or not, we strongly recommend that you **stay home** until the public health crisis has abated.

Cancelations and Postponements

As of press date (18 March), the following programs have been suspended.

Concert Music

- American Guild of Organists Lenten Organ Recital Series
- Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra
- "The Third Place Concert Series" (Bløm Meadworks)
- EMU bands alumni concert
- Formosa Quartet (EMU)
- "Love's Philosophy: Songs & Keyboard Music of Mozart & Haydn" (Kerrytown Concert House)
- Classical pianist Leah Claiborne (KCH)
- Pianist Kevin Cole (KCH)
- "Mad about Chamber Music" (KCH)
- Pianist Martin Katz & 3 U-M violin professors (KCH)
- Pianist Andreas Xenopoulos (KCH)
- "The Battle for Pops" (Michigan Pops Orchestra)
- Apollo's Fire (University Musical Society)
- British pianist Benjamin Grosvenor (UMS)
- Emerson String Quartet (UMS)
- U-M Life Sciences Orchestra concert
- Washtenaw Chorale

Vernacular Music

- Country-rock singer-songwriter Fred Eaglesmith (Green Wood Coffee House Series)
- Singer-songwriter Charlie King & musical satire duo Prince Myshkins (Interfaith Council for Peace & Justice)
- Jazz pianist Ellen Rowe's "All About the Trio" (KCH)
- Brazilian pianist André Mehmari and his trio (KCH)
- Bill Lucas Jazz Quartet (KCH)
- Folk singer Josh White Jr., pop-folk singer-songwriter Jill Jack, & fiddle virtuoso Samantha Cooper (KCH)
- Lynn Speakman's mostly-local jazz ensemble Generations Quintet (KCH)
- Indian Carnatic music (KCH)
- Jazz bassist Paul Keller & friends (KCH)
- Jazz drummer Sean Dobbins & saxophonist Diego Rivera (KCH)
- Tabla player Zakir Hussain, violinist Kala Ramnath, & veena (Indian lute) player Jayanth Kumares (UMS)
- U-M Men's Glee Club spring concert
- U-M SMTD music events
- Twenty-four-voice chamber choir (Vocal Arts Ensemble)

Theater, Opera, & Dance

- A Beautiful Country (U-M theatre)
- Am I Blue (U-M Basement Arts)
- Arabic to English (Theatre Nova)
- Benestopheles: The Last of the Ghoulita Graves (Neighborhood Theatre Group)
- Cinderella's Glass Slipper (Saline Area Players)
- Godspell 2012 (Ann Arbor Civic Theatre)
- Guys & Dolls (The Encore Musical Theatre Company)
- H.M.S. Pinafore (U-M Gilbert & Sullivan Society)
- Home (Beth Morrison Projects)
- Just Desserts: One Acts, Shorts, & Skits (Community High)
- Mr. Burns, A Post-Electric Play (Ann Arbor Civic Theatre)
- My One and Only (U-M musical theatre)
- Nonthuk's Duty (The Moradokmai Theatre Community/Ann Arbor District Library)
- Rhapsody in Blue (Runyonland Productions)
- Tartuffe (EMU theatre)
- U-M SMTD dance events
- Zombies from the Beyond (Concordia University)

Comedy, Storytelling, Performing Arts

- "End of Play" (Ann Arbor Civic Theatre)
- Gigi Bella (Ann Arbor Poetry)
- One Pause Poetry Salon
- Storytellers Guild story swaps
- The Moth StorySlam

Festivals, Fairs, & Shows

- Ann Arbor Antiques Market
- "Annual Record Store Day" AADL
- 14th Annual FestiFools
- Annual outdoor festival FoolMoon
- Fiber Fest 2020 (Ann Arbor Fiberarts Guild)
- Penny Seats Theatre Company's 10th Anniversary Gala
- Take Back the Night rally

AADL.ORG/PODCASTS
OR WHEREVER YOU GET YOUR PODCASTS

AADLPODCASTS

BODY OF WORK A not-so-serious podcast that takes a look at someone's, well, body of work. Host Sherlonya Turner and a rotating cast of counterparts talk about the work of people like Lin-Manuel Miranda, David Chang, and Hari Kondabolu.

FELLOW YOUTHS Catch up on the latest young adult literature, movies, video games, and anime with three twenty-somethings desperately trying to keep up with the world.

PRESENTING ALFRED HITCHCOCK PRESENTS A podcast dedicated to examining each episode of the original Alfred Hitchcock Presents TV series–show by show, in chronological order. Reviews have called it "thorough and entertaining," and "essential for Hitchcock fans."

MARTIN BANDYKE UNDER COVERS Ann Arbor's own Martin Bandyke interviews authors about books on music, art, history, and more. Bandyke is the morning drive host on Ann Arbor's 107one and hosts Fine Tuning every Sunday on 107one.

- U-M Matthaei Botanical Garden plant sale

Lectures, Readings, & Forums

- "Package Bee Installation" (Ann Arbor Backyard Beekeepers)
- "Impact of the 1619 Project" (AADL)
- "My Herbicide Did That?" (Ann Arbor Farm & Garden)
- "Spring Flowering Shrubs" (Ann Arbor Garden Club & American Rhododendron Society)
- Downtown Home & Garden building tour
- Plantskydd representative Julia Hofley (DH&G)
- *Time* political correspondent Molly Ball (Ford Presidential Library)
- "Writing Orchid Award Descriptions" (Great Lakes Orchid Judging Society)
- "Relaxing with Herbs" (Herb Study Group)
- "Adventures in Volunteering" (Huron Valley Sierra Club)
- Ikebana International
- Kempf House Museum noon lecture series
- Local poet Rachel DeWoskin (Literati Bookstore)
- "Fix-It Friday" (Maker Works)
- "Go-Tech" show-and-tell (Maker Works)
- "Modern Systematics & Illuminating Hidden Relationship Plants" (Michigan Botanical Club)
- Horticulturalist Jenny Wainwright-Klein (North American Rock Garden Society)
- The Open Organization of Lockpickers
- Public Citizens of Washtenaw meeting
- Southeast Michigan CNC Makers Club
- All U-M discussions & lectures
- U-M Clements Library talks
- U-M Osher Lifelong Learning Institute talks & series
- U-M School of Art & Design Penny Stamps Speaker Series
- Novelist & short story writer Lauren Groff (U-M Zell Visiting Writers Series)
- Novelist & memoirist Kiese Laymon (U-M Hopwood Awards Ceremony)
- Talk by former General Motors design manager Susan Skarsgard (WCC)

Family & Kids Stuff

- Ann Arbor District Library (select events)
- Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum (select events)
- Photo ops with the Easter Bunny (Briarwood mall)
- Kerry Tales with Mother Goose (Kerrytown Shops)
- Piano open mic (King's Keyboard)
- "Elzada Clover Day" (Matthaei Botanical Gardens)
- "Groovy Great Lakes" (MBG)
- "The Pout-Pout Fish" (Michigan Theater)
- U-M Museum of Natural History

Miscellaneous

- Ann Arbor Stitch 'n' Bitch meeting
- "CineMalPractice" bad film screenings
- Music trivia (Conor O'Neill's)
- Creature encounters (Creature Conservancy)
- Gardening with the Ecology Center
- Euchre Change a Life
- "Goddess Run" (Epic Races)
- Grief Week (GrieveWell)
- Handbell for Beginners (First Presbyterian Church)
- International Neighbors women gatherings
- Kempf House Museum tour
- Michigan & State theater films
- 1st & 3rd Saturday Contra Dance (Pittsfield Union Grange)
- St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church's Lenten Fish Fry
- Tartan & Thistle Scottish Country Dancers
- "Twinkie Run" (Ann Arbor Active Against ALS)
- U-M Athletic events
- U-M Clements Library tours
- U-M Student Astronomical Society Open House
- UMMA
- Zingerman's Delicatessen events
- Zingerman's Roadhouse's dinner "One for the Road"

The Covid Calendar

The week the music stopped

First venues shut down. Then they looked ahead.

"I'm trying not to panic but take it one day at a time," said Kerrytown Concert House director Monica Swartout-Bebow. That was back on March 9. Though no cases of Covid-19 had yet been reported in Michigan, the local concert presenter had already emailed patrons about new procedures: no handshaking, lots of handwashing, stay home if you're sick.

The first two Michigan cases of the virus were confirmed two days later. The Centers for Disease Control declared an emergency, and the cascade of closures and cancelations began. Michigan State stopped classes, then the U-M, then the AAPS. Sports events and entire sports seasons were cancelled.

Arts organizations followed. By week's end, the Kerrytown Concert House and the Ark had cancelled all March performances. The U-M forbade any public events with more than 100 people, causing the University Musical Society to cancel the remainder of its season. The Ann Arbor Film Festival cancelled its six-day live run—then replaced it with a free, six-day live stream (see aafilmfest.org/live-stream-schedule).

Swartout-Bebow says they decided to cancel their concerts after "a conversation with an unnamed source who works for the governor's office who suggested privately that it might be irresponsible to continue having public gatherings." They were particularly sensitive, since "the prevailing demographic of our patrons falls in that age range of folks particularly vulnerable to this virus."

Patrons can get a credit for their tickets or donate them, but artists are out of luck. "If they don't do the concert they don't get their fee," Swartout-Bebow says.

Same for the presenter: no show means no ticket sales, so no income. "It's going to be painful financially," said Swartout-Bebow. "We'll muddle through [but] we'll have to tighten our belts." How long they can go on without income? "I really don't know. I need to sit down with my treasurer and do some projecting."

Swartout-Bebow's inside source gave her a few days head start. On Monday, Governor Whitmer's executive order shut down the Michigan Theater, along with fitness centers, bars, and restaurants (though the last were allowed to continue takeout and delivery service—see Restaurants, p. 33

The order initially covered only March but was widely expected to be extended. So Swartout-Bebow is already planning next season. "This isn't going to last forever," she predicts. "I'm preparing myself for a surreal and difficult couple of months. But we'll come back stronger than ever."

—James Leonard

1 Wednesday

★**Winter Democratic Rides: Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** *Apr. 1–3.* Assembled riders decide on the pace, distance, and destination. Call ahead to confirm ride. *Note:* Riders should be prepared to take care of themselves on all AABTS rides. Carry a water bottle, a spare tire or tube, a pump, a cell phone, and snacks. *10 a.m., meet at Bird Hills parking lot, 1951 Newport. 347–1259.*

★**Hudson Mills Metropark Interpretive Nature Programs.** *Apr. 1 & 18.* All-ages programs led by Hudson Mills naturalist Kim Sherwin. *Apr. 1 (10–11 a.m.):* **"Eggcellent Eggsperiments."** Learn why the shape & color of eggs are important in nature. Also, participants dye eggs to take home. *Apr. 18 (8–10 a.m.):* **"Spring Birding."** Hike to look for red-winged blackbirds, whose histrionic mating habits make for interesting viewing, and other early spring migrants. One male blackbird can have up to 15 females nesting in his territory, but 25–50% of nestlings aren't sired by the territorial male. *Apr. 18 (noon–2 p.m.):* **"Vernal Pond Day."** Explore life teeming in one of the seasonal pools of water that provide a short-lived habitat for plants & animals. *Various times, park activity center, 8801 North Territorial Rd., Dexter. Free, preregistration required; $10 vehicle entrance fee. 426–8211.*

San, Emily, & Brian: Society for Musical Arts. Multi-instrumentalist San Slomovits (an Observer contributor, best known as half of the popular family-friendly duo Gemini) and his violinist daughter, Emily Slomovits, are joined by pianist Brian Bill to perform a program of **"Songs of Broadway."** Followed by a meet-the-artists lunch ($15). *10:30 a.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. $17 (accompanying friend, $15; groups of 5 or more, $10 each; student, $5). Lunch preregistration required by calling 662–3279. AnnArborSMA.org*

★**Chime Concert: Kerrytown Shops.** *Every Wed., Fri., & Sat.* All invited to play one of 100 songs, with melodies transcribed in numbers, on the 17-bell chime's numbered keys. Local chimemaster Heather O'Neal demonstrates. *Noon–12:30 p.m. (Wed. & Fri.) & 10:30–11 a.m. (Sat.), Kerrytown Market & Shops. Free. 369–3107.*

★**Kerrytown Crafters.** *Every Wed.* All crocheters, knitters, spinners, weavers, felters, sewers, and other crafters invited to work on their projects. Questions welcome, help available. *6:30–8:30 p.m. or so, Kerrytown Sweetwaters. Free. Facebook.com/Groups/KTCrafters, 926–8863.*

★**Megan Giddings: Literati Bookstore.** This Michigan-based writer & U-M grad reads from ***Lakewood,*** her brand-new dystopian novel about strange medical experiments happening in a fictional Michigan town. Signing. *7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585–5567.*

Ann Arbor Bridge Club. *Every Wed.* All invited to play ACBL-sanctioned duplicate bridge. If you plan to come without a partner, call in advance or arrive 20 minutes early. *7–11 p.m., Walden Hills clubhouse, 2114 Pauline east of Maple (park in the designated spaces in the lot on the north side of Pauline). $6 per person. 623–8050.*

★**History of Books & Printing Reading Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers.** All invited to discuss John Hruschka's 2012 book ***How Books Came to America: The Rise of the American Book Trade.*** *7:30–9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 669–0451.*

★**Visitors Night: Ann Arbor Model Railroad Club.** All invited to check out the trains whizzing around on the club's big, elaborate layout, housed in a depot restored by the club. *7:30–10 p.m., Michigan Central Depot, 3487 Broad, Dexter. Free. 426–5100.*

"Comedy Rumble Mania": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. Detroit comedian Brett Hayden hosts this multi-round contest with 90-second performances by area comics who have won previous Comedy Rumbles. Judged by a panel of comics. *7:30 p.m., 212 S. Fourth Ave. $10 reserved seating in advance at etix.com and $12 general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

2 Thursday

★**"Spring Migration Walk in Nichols Arboretum": Washtenaw Audubon Society.** *Every Thurs., Mar. 26–May 28.* All invited to walk through the Arb to look for resident birds and early migrants. *8–11 a.m., meet at the cul-de-sac at the end of Riverview off Geddes. Free. WashtenawAudubon.org*

★**"Gravel Roads Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** *Every Thurs.* A slow/moderate-paced ride, with destinations determined by the riders. *9 a.m., meet at Barton Park parking lot, 1010 W. Huron River. Free. 996–8440.*

★**Ann Arbor Go Club.** *Every Thurs. & Sun.* Players of all skill levels invited to play this challenging strategy board game. No partner necessary. Boards and stones provided. *6–11 p.m.,*

Ann Arbor
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SHOWTIME – 7:30PM
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Super fast-paced comedy competition. 30 comedians doing 90 seconds of material each. No time for filler, just jokes. This one is special because it will be all previous winners of the show to find out truly who is the best of the best!
Andy Pitz
April 2, 3, & 4
"The Late Show" w/Letterman
Comedy Central's "Gotham Comedy Live"
Keith Ruff
April 9, 10, & 11
Kevin Fergusun's "Night Shift"
The Stand Up Science Show
April 15
Presented by award-winning stand-up comedian and science podcast host Shane Mauss.
SPECIAL ENGAGEMENT! ONE NIGHT ONLY!!! ONE SHOW @ 7:30PM
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April 16, 17, & 18
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Espresso Royale, 324 S. State. Free. umich.edu/~goclub

★**Annual Banquet: Huron Hills Lapidary & Mineral Society.** Silent auction of minerals, a potluck dinner (bring a dish to pass), and a talk about Lake Superior agates by Livingston County Gem and Mineral Society member Jim Hansen. *6 p.m., West Side United Methodist, 900 S. Seventh St. Free. 665–5574.*

★**Voice Studio Recital: EMU Music Department.** EMU voice students perform a recital of duets and chamber music. *6 p.m., EMU Honors College, 511 W. Forest, Ypsilanti. Free.*

★**"Jane Kenyon Chapbook Prize": Literati Bookstore.** Reading by the winner (TBA) of this prize, awarded to a 20–30 page poetry collection written by a U-M undergrad. *7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585–5567.*

★**Comhaltas.** *Every Thurs.* All invited to join members of this local chapter of the Detroit Irish Music Association for an informal evening playing traditional Irish music on various instruments. Lessons offered. *7:30–9:30 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. Free. Facebook.com/DetroitIMA*

Andy Pitz: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *Apr. 2–4.* New York comic who blends fresh observational humor with self-deprecating commentary about the absurdities of his own life. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. *7:30 p.m. (Thurs.–Sat.) & 10 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 212 S. Fourth Ave. $9 (Thurs.) & $12 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance at etix.com before 5 p.m. the night of the show; $11 (Thurs.) & $14 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

Community Garden Party: Pointless Brewery & Theatre Shadow League Show. *Every Thurs.* Improv by this brand-new resident team, plus 2 guest groups. *7:30 p.m., Pointless, 3014 Packard. $8. (989) 455–4484.*

★**German Conversation.** *Every Tues. & Thurs.* All German speakers, native or non-native, invited for conversation with either or both of 2 long-running groups, the German Speakers Round Table (Tues.) and the Stammtisch (Thurs.). *8–10 p.m., Grizzly Peak Brewing Company, 120 W. Washington. Free. 453–2394 (Tues.) & 678–1017 (Thurs.).*

"Paint Night": Purple Rose Theatre Company. *Every Wed.–Sun., Apr. 2–May 30.* Guy Sanville directs the world premiere of Michigan playwright Carey Crim's drama about 5 long-time best friends gathered for a bachelorette soiree who confront buried truths about themselves and their relationships. *8 p.m. (Thurs.–Sat.), 3 p.m. (Wed. & Sat.), & 2 p.m. (Sun.), PRT, 137 Park St., Chelsea. Tickets $32 (Wed.), $28 (Thurs.), $42 (Fri. eve.), $43 (weekend matinees), $47 (Sat. eve.) in advance at PurpleRoseTheatre.org, by phone, & (if available) at the door. 433–7673.*

3 Friday

★**"Joe's Friday Breakfast Club": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** *Every Fri.* Rides of 20 miles or more (round trip), to the Coney Island in Whitmore Lake for a 10:30 a.m. breakfast or early lunch. *10 a.m., meet at Barton Park parking lot, 1010 W. Huron River. Free. 476–4944.*

★**"Drink & Draw/Imbibe & Inscribe": Pointless Brewery & Theatre.** *Every Fri.* All invited to draw or write. Supplies and writing and drawing prompts provided. *4–7 p.m., Pointless, 3014 Packard. Free admission (buy your own beer). (989) 455–4484.*

★**Game Night: Sweetwaters Downtown.** *Apr. 3 & 17.* All invited to play card & board games. Bring your own game, or use one provided. *6:30–10:30 p.m., Sweetwaters, 123 W. Washington. Free. 417–4266.*

"Women in Cheese": Zingerman's Creamery. Zingerman's cheesemakers discuss and offer taste samples of cheeses made by women. *6:30–8:30 p.m., Zingerman's Creamery, 3723 Plaza Dr. $40. 929–0500.*

Dances of Universal Peace (Sufi Dancing). All invited to join in song, chant, and circle dances in joyous affirmation of the unity of the world's spiritual traditions. *7–9 p.m., Friends Meetinghouse, 1420 Hill. $5 requested donation. 663–2037.*

★**"U-M English Sub-Concentration Reading": Literati Bookstore.** *Apr. 3 & 6 (different programs).* Readings by 7 U-M creative writing undergrads working on book-length manuscripts. *7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585–5567.*

"The Parliament of Poets": Apollo's Troupe. *Apr. 3, 4, 10, & 18.* This local theater company performs a stage adaptation of veteran poet Frederick Glaysher's 2012 epic poem in which Apollo, the Greek god of poetry, summons the ancient and modern poets of all nations to the moon to fashion a new vision of universal life. Also, a lecture by Glaysher on Apr. 5 (see listing). *7 p.m., Michigan Theater Building, ste. 208. Tickets $15 (students & seniors, $10) in advance at a2tix.com and at the door. 660–4037.*

Andy Pitz: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 2 Thursday. 7:30 & 10 p.m.

"Paint Night": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 2 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Pointless Improv Shows": Pointless Brewery & Theatre. *Every Fri. & Sat., except Apr. 4.* Comedic improv by the resident **League of Pointless Improvisers** & other experienced local performers. *8 & 10 p.m., Pointless, 3014 Packard. $15 (8 p.m.) & $12 (10 p.m.). (989) 455–4484.*

"Friday Night Swing": Ann Arbor Swing Dance Association/Ann Arbor Community for Traditional Music and Dance. *Every Fri.* Lindy hop, East Coast swing, Charleston, and Balboa dancing to music spun by DJs. No partner needed. Preceded at 8 p.m. by a free beginner lesson. *9 p.m.–midnight, Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. $5 (students & AACTMAD members, $4). (847) 757–0942.*

4 Saturday

★**"Ann Arbor Group Runs": Running Fit.** *Every Mon. & Sat.* Runners of all abilities invited to join a 3–8 mile run along varying routes from different Running Fit locations. Also, a speed-training session (every Tues. 6:30 p.m., 5700 Jackson *Rd.*). Snacks. Snow or shine. *8 a.m. (Sat.), 5700 Jackson Rd and 6:30 p.m. (Mon.), 123 E. Liberty. Free. 769–5016 (Mon.), 929–9022 (Tues. & Sat. Jackson Rd. run).*

Fiber Expo. *Apr. 4 & 5.* Show and sale of a variety of yarns, rug hooking kits, felted items, roving, and fiber art products and craft items. Sheep, goat, and alpaca shearing demonstrations. Classes. Also, breeders on hand with alpacas, goats, Angora rabbits, & other animals. Concessions. No dogs allowed, except service dogs. *9 a.m.–5 p.m. (Sat.) & 10 a.m.–4 p.m. (Sun.), Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd., Saline. Tickets $4 per day (weekend pass, $6; age 12 & under, free). FiberExpo.com*

★**"Climate Emergencies": Washtenaw County Democratic Party Program Committee Monthly Meeting.** Panel discussion on the city's efforts to mitigate climate change. With Ann Arbor mayor **Christopher Taylor,** city sustainability and innovations engagement specialist Galen Hardy, Kekere Freedom School founder Nuola Akinde, and Veridian at County Farm founder Matthew Grocoff. Preceded at 9:30 a.m. by a panelists meet-and-greet. *10 a.m.–noon., Washtenaw County Learning Resource Center, 4135 Washtenaw Ave. Free, nonperishable food items requested for the WCDP food drive. 883–8250.*

★**"Get Historical!": Downtown Home & Garden.** DH&G owner emeritus **Mark Hodesh** leads tours of his 112-year-old building, which contains the city's last horse stalls. *Noon–1 p.m., DH&G, 210 S. Ashley. Free. 662–8122.*

★**"Spring Tonics and Seasonal Spring Cleansing": Ann Arbor School of Massage, Herbal & Natural Medicine.** Lecture-demo by Gaia Center for Herbal Studies founder Mary Light. Also, from noon–3 p.m., the school hosts an **open house.** *1 p.m., 6276 Jackson Rd., ste. B. Free. 769–7794.*

Argentine Tango Practice: Sophia & El Kronox. *Every Sat.* Tango dancing to recorded music. No partner or experience necessary. Preceded at 1 p.m. by a lesson ($10). *2–3 p.m., Phoenix Center, 220 S. Main. $5 (free with lesson). SophiaTango.com, 634–9629.*

★**Nathan VanMeter: EMU Music Department.** This EMU senior performs a program of French horn works by Saint–Saëns, Schubert, Bozza, and Strauss. *2–3 p.m., EMU Alexander Recital Hall, Lowell at E. Circle Dr., Ypsilanti. Free. (517) 290–0721.*

"Paint Night": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 2 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

★**Pittsfield Open Band: Ann Arbor Community for Traditional Music and Dance.** *Apr. 4 & 18.* All musicians invited for a contra dance music open jam. Bring Judi Morningstar's *The Ruffwater Fakebook,* Susan Songer's *The Portland Collection,* and Bill Matthiesen's *The Waltz Book* if you have them. *3–6 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 994–9307.*

★**"Icebreakers ^2": Pointless Brewery & Theatre.** *Every Sat.* All invited to play low-key parlor games. *4–7 p.m., Pointless, 3014 Packard. Free admission (buy your own beer). (989) 455–4484.*

★**Senior Projects Dance Concert: EMU Dance Department.** EMU senior dance majors present original choreography, featuring other EMU dance students. *4–6 p.m., EMU Pease Auditorium, 494 College Pl., Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2849.*

★**Student Voice Recitals: EMU Music Department.** *Apr. 4 & 14.* EMU students perform an hour-long program TBA. *Apr. 4 (4 p.m.):* Sopranos **Em Tennie & Zoe Zdrojewski.** *Apr. 14 (7:30 p.m.):* Tenor **Josh Danielson** & baritone **Charlie Moynihan.** *Various times, EMU Alexander Recital Hall, Lowell at E. Circle Dr., Ypsilanti. Free. 487–3728.*

★**"Through the Other End of the Looking Glass": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore and Tea Room.** *Apr. 4 & 18.* Local amateur philosopher G. Arthur Weidman discusses metaphysics & emotional intelligence. *6:30–8 p.m. or so, Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665–2757.*

"The Parliament of Poets": Apollo's Troupe. See 3 Friday. 7 p.m.

★**Guitar Recital: EMU Music Department.** EMU guitar students perform solo & ensemble works for classical guitar. *7 p.m., EMU Alexander Recital Hall, Lowell at E. Circle Dr., Ypsilanti. Free. 483–0739.*

"Drum & Dance Jam": Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth. All invited to join a group drumming session led by percussionist Curtis Glatter. Also, undirected free-form dancing, if you wish. No experience required. *7:30–9 p.m., Interfaith Center, 704 Airport Blvd, ste. 1. $5 suggested donation. 327–0270.*

Andy Pitz: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 2 Thursday. 7:30 & 10 p.m.

Circus Performance Showcase: Ringstar Studio. Circus performances on the open-ended theme "The Box," featuring aerial silks & aerial hoops, hand balancing, and hoop dance. *8 p.m., Ringstar Studio, 3907 Varsity. $5 at the door only. 335–1625.*

★**"Songs from a Lost World of Italian Jewish Composers": Northside Community Church.** Soprano **Caroline Helton** and pianist **Kathryn Goodson** perform works by the preeminent Italian composer Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco in celebration of the release of the latest in their series of recordings of music by Italian Jewish composers. *8 p.m., livestreamed on facebook.com/ncca2 & ncca2.org. Free. 662–6351.*

"Forte Factory": Pointless Brewery & Theatre. This Pointless musical improv team improvises a one-act musical inspired by a conversation with the audience. *8 & 10 p.m., Pointless, 3014 Packard. $15 (8 p.m.) & $12 (10 p.m.). (989) 455–4484.*

5 Sunday

★**"Robert Love Memorial Knap-In": Michigan Flintknappers.** Michigan artisans demonstrate the ancient art of stone-age

comedy

Laugh or Die

Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase
Comedy Jamm

LA NUÑEZ

I love comedy. Mostly because I'm determined to maintain a healthy level of faith that everything will be OK, even when we're being bombarded on a regular basis with news that everything is not going to be OK. I also believe laughter is the best medicine.

Comedy Jamm is an open mic night. When I visited, pre-pandemic, there were a handful of audience members sitting inches from the stage and about seventeen people in the far corner of the theater getting ready to perform. The room was just dim enough to make everyone look like someone I know, with the stage well lit.

Andrew Yang was our host. He started by making solid jokes about his Taiwanese parents (they told him "comedian" is Chinese for "I have no son"). He introduced the open mic participants with a roar into the microphone.

First up, an asylum-seeker from Syria who joked about immigration and praised both his "off-white color" and his hairline. Then a woman in her mid-forties told us she'd managed to lose 200 pounds: "That's like two small Backstreet Boys." The audience chuckled often. Everyone was polite, even when the jokes weren't funny. It was lovely, really.

The next guy wasn't funny to me at all. He yelled about how "shitty" Allen Park is, and how dumb the people who live there are. He said its library should have a Dairy Queen and bowling alley attached to it. I was glad when his time was up.

Ellie Snyder, who looked like a librarian, told us she's got degrees in French horn and writing—and then, with a flip of her brown ponytail, asked if we wanted to hear about her "dog shit" ex-boyfriend Brad. She said Brad "dangled an Adderall-covered donut down a drain to catch her," and she initially thought it would work out well because he has a savior complex and she doesn't have a dad.

A nice run of about five or six others followed, mostly men. Everyone was well-rehearsed and professional. A kid who identified as "straight-edge" explained: "That means I don't drink or smoke or get invited to parties." He also complained about the terrible people at the sperm bank.

I witnessed an interesting exchange between the audience and the only black woman to perform. She said she just moved to Ann Arbor and talked about how frightening it is for black folks here what with "white college students going around knocking on doors scaring black people and talking about being in the master's program." This made a few folks up front uncomfortable, but I thought it was smart and funny. Besides, how else do we manage the scary, ugly parts of society and our own lives?

Laugh or die, I say. Laugh or die.

At press time the Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase is closed through March 31st. Programming is slated to start in April, with Comedy Jamms scheduled for April 8, 22, and 30 at 7:30 p.m. Check AnnArborObserver.com/Events/ for updates.

—Charmie Gholson

tool making. *10 a.m.–4 p.m., Chelsea Rod & Gun Club, 7103 Lingane Rd., Chelsea. Free. MichiganFlintKnappers.com*

★**H.A.C. Ultimate.** *Every Sun.* All invited to a relaxed pickup game of this spirited team sport played with a flying disc. *Note:* Overly competitive players are politely asked to leave. *11:15 a.m., Fuller Park, just west of the pool & parking lot (or occasionally across the street). Free. 846–9418, hac-UltimateList@GoogleGroups.com*

★**Shape Note Singing: Ann Arbor Sacred Harp.** All invited to join an afternoon of shape note, or sacred harp, singing, a form of communal hymn singing that has its roots in colonial America. Sacred Harp songbooks available, but singers encouraged to bring their own. *1–4 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Free, donations accepted for music scholarships. 678–7549, 663–0262.*

"Paint Night": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 2 Thursday. 2 p.m.

★**Beer & Board Games: Pointless Brewery & Theatre.** *Every Sun.* All invited to play board games. Some games provided (or you can bring your own, if you wish). *4–7 p.m., Pointless, 3014 Packard. Free admission (buy your own beer). (989) 455–4484, info@PointlessBrew.com*

★**Ann Arbor Morris.** *Every Sun.* All invited to try this boisterous, jingly English ceremonial dance thought to be descended from the 15th-century Spanish *moresca*. Wear athletic shoes. *6–8 p.m., Concourse Hall, 4531 Concourse. Free. Email a2morris@umich.edu to confirm or check meetup.com/Ann-Arbor-Morris-Dancing. 717–1569.*

"A Reassessment of Life on this Planet": Frederick Glaysher. *Apr. 5, 11, & 19.* Lectures by veteran local poet Glaysher. *Apr. 5:* **"Saul Bellow's Soul."** *Apr. 11:* **"The Dialectic of Chinese Literature."** *Apr. 19:* **"The Coming Victory of World Governance."** *7 p.m., Michigan Theater Building, ste. 208. Tickets $15 (students & seniors, $10) in advance at a2tix.com and at the door. 660–4037.*

"The Arcade: Improv Jam": Pointless Brewery & Theatre. *Apr. 5 & 19.* All invited to play short-form improv games. No experience necessary. Spectators welcome. *7:30 p.m., Pointless, 3014 Packard. Pay what you can. (989) 455–4484.*

6 Monday

★**Faculty Author Recognition Celebration: U-M Library.** A reception in celebration of U-M faculty who wrote monographs published in 2019. Remarks by MSU digital humanities director Kathleen Fitzpatrick. *3 p.m., Hatcher Graduate Library Gallery, enter from the Diag. Free. 764–3166.*

★**"Greek to Me": U-M Modern Greek Program Gerald F. Else Lecture in the Humanities.** *New Yorker* copy editor & bestselling writer **Mary Norris** discusses her latest book about her decades-long obsession with Greece, including its language, literature, mythologies, people, monuments, and more. *New York Times* reporter Vivian Gornick calls it "one of the most satisfying accounts of a great passion that I have ever read." *4–6 p.m., Rackham Amphitheatre, 4th fl. Free. 764–0360.*

★**"Sewing Lab": Ann Arbor District Library.** *Apr. 6 & 20.* All invited to get basic sewing help with their unfinished projects or learn how to use the AADL sewing machines. Bring your own sewing machine, if you wish. No experience necessary. Also, Made by Rae owner Rae Hoekstra demonstrates **bias binding** (Apr. 6) and local crafter Amber Adams-Fall shows how to work with **mitered corners** (Apr. 20). *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4200.*

★**"Emerging Writers: Showing and Telling in Fiction": Ann Arbor District Library.** Local veteran short story writer Alex Kourvo discusses how to combine these 2 fundamental elements of narrative in a way that makes for compelling fiction. Also, on Apr. 20 at 7 p.m., Kourvo and freelance editor Christine Allen-Riley answer questions, share resources, and critique your writing, if you wish. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Westgate. Free. 327–4200.*

★**"The Stigma of Mental Illness": Ann Arbor District Library.** All invited to join a discussion led by U-M social worker Lisa Anderson. Also, decorate a wish-jar to take home. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown multipurpose rm., 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4200.*

★**"In the Beginning: An Atheist Professor Considers Intelligent Design": Lifetree Café.** Video screening followed by a conversation led

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by St. Paul Lutheran Church members. *7–8 p.m., 500 W. Liberty. Free. 665–7912.*

★**Large Ensemble Meeting: Ann Arbor Recorder Society.** All beginning and advanced players of the recorder and other early instruments invited. Directed by viol teacher and early music specialist Janet Cannon. Music provided; bring your own music stand. *7:30–9 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. Free to visitors ($40 monthly dues for those who join). a2RecorderSociety.org*

Pub Quiz: Conor O'Neill's Irish Pub. *Every Mon.* Local high school English teacher Barry Aherne throws out questions for anyone to answer at this popular weekly trivia fest. Come with a team (up to 6 people) or join one. Prizes. *8:30–11:30 p.m., Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main. $5 team fee. 665–2968.*

7 Tuesday

★**"A2 Early Morning Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** *Every Tues.* Cyclists invited to join club members on this easy-paced ride of 20–30 miles. *9 a.m., meet at Bird Hills Park parking lot, 1951 Newport Rd. Free. 996–8440.*

★**"Hand Embroidery": Ann Arbor District Library.** All invited to learn the basics of hand embroidery, including choosing fabrics, threading a needle, and starting a sampler. Beginners welcome. *6–8 p.m., AADL Westgate. Free. 327–4200.*

★**Student Poetry Reading: U-M English Department.** U-M undergrads read their poetry. Refreshments. *6–8 p.m., Thayer Bldg. foyer, 202 S. Thayer. Free. 647–9960.*

★**"Exploring Motors": Ann Arbor District Library.** All invited to make a simple motor to understand the principles at work and then learn how to control the motor with code. Also, participants make another simple machine in a group. *6:30–8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4200.*

Eastside Weekly Euchre Tournament. *Every Tues.* Open to all age 18 & over. No partner needed. Cash prizes for 1st–3rd places. *7 p.m., Banfield's Bar & Grill, 3140 Packard. $5. Kari.Thurman@gmail.com*

"A2 Community Sing": Ann Arbor Senior Center. All invited to join this monthly gathering to sing songs from the various branches of American folk music. *7–8:30 p.m., Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. $5. 794–6250.*

★**Ann Arbor Camera Club:** *Apr. 7 & 21.* Club members show their projected digital images (Apr. 7) and prints (Apr. 21) submitted in the club's annual competition. *7:30 p.m., Forsythe Middle School media center, 1655 Newport Rd. Free. 327–4781.*

★**Spanish Readers Group: Nicola's Books.** All invited to join a discussion, in Spanish, of ***El impertinente,*** interviews and investigative reporting by Cuban expatriate journalist Juan Manuel Cao. *7:30 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate. Free. 662–0600.*

Opera on Tap. Local singers perform arias and art songs. Tonight's theme: **"Twitterpated,"** a feeling of infatuation, obsession, & nervous excitement. *8:30–10 p.m. (seating begins at 6:30 p.m.), Sidetrack Bar & Grill, 56 E. Cross, Ypsilanti. Free (buy your own food), donations accepted; preregistration required (call between 10 a.m. & 8 p.m.). 483–5230.*

8 Wednesday

★**"Early Morning Ride A2 West Side": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** *Every Wed. except Apr. 1.* Cyclists invited to join club members on this a moderate-paced 40-mile ride to Chelsea or Whitmore Lake and beyond. Other Wed. rides: **"West Side Ride"** (5:30 p.m. sharp, meet at the B2B Trailhead at Mill Creek Park and Jeffords St. between Alpine & Forest, Dexter. 426–5116, 665–4552, & 761–2659). Moderate-paced 25-mile ride and a slow-paced ride, 13–16 miles, both on the B2B Trail. Now in its 43rd year, this ride is a favorite with newcomers and casual riders. *9 a.m., meet at Bird Hills Park parking lot, 1951 Newport Rd. Free. 996–8440.*

Louis Nagel: Society for Musical Arts. This popular local classical pianist and retired U-M music professor performs **"Some Chestnuts and a Harder Nut to Crack,"** a program of familiar short works and a longer piece TBA. Followed by a meet-the-artist lunch ($15). *10:30 a.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. $17 (accompanying friend, $15; groups of 5 or more, $10 each; students, $5). Lunch preregistration required by calling 662–3279. AnnArborSMA.org*

"Paint Night": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 2 Thursday. 3 p.m.

★**Letterpress Open Lab: Ann Arbor District Library.** *Apr. 8, 15, 22, & 29.* All adults invited to learn the basics of letterpress printing using vintage handset type. *6–8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4200.*

★**"An Evening of Poetry and Written Word": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room.** All invited to read and discuss poetry or short fiction. Bring about 6 copies of your original work to share. *7–8:45 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665–2757.*

★**Poetry Night: Nicola's Books.** Howell poet **Isabella Mansfield** and Midland spoken word artist **Grace Carras** read their work. *7 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate. Free. 662–0600.*

★**Phil Christman: Literati Bookstore.** This U-M English professor reads from *Midwest Futures*, his new book-length essay about the history of the U.S. and what it might become in the future. Signing. *7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585–5567.*

★**"Autonomous Vehicles: Trends & Reality": Ann Arbor District Library.** U-M mechanical engineering professor & Mcity director Huei Peng discusses Mcity, a public-private partnership devoted to advancing the development of connected & automated vehicles. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Traverwood, 3333 Traverwood. Free. 327–4200.*

★**Karim Nagi: Ann Arbor District Library.** This Egyptian American drummer-composer and folk dancer presents a concert of music and dance from around the Arab world. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown lobby, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4200.*

★**"Back Door Food Pantry": Pittsfield Union Grange.** Local food pantry leader Kathy Daly discusses her work. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by a potluck; bring a dish to pass. *7:15 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 274–0773.*

★**"Manoomin: The Story of Wild Rice in Michigan": History Readers Book Club.** All invited to join a discussion, led by local historian Steve Thorp, of Barbara Barton's 2018 book which examines how clashes between the capitalist culture of early European settlers and the spiritual culture of the Anishinaabe people affected wild rice production. *7:30–9 p.m., Motte & Bailey Booksellers, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 484–3613.*

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *Apr. 8, 22, & 30; see review p. 48.* Performances by 12 aspiring area stand-up comics. Alcohol is served. *7:30 p.m., 212 S. Fourth Ave. $5 reserved seating in advance at etix.com and general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

"Full Metal Events": Pointless Brewery & Theatre. 5–10 minute stand-up comedy sets, ranging in style from observational to absurdist. With Ann Arbor–based comic **Kevin Key,** Metro Detroit comic **Sonny,** and Tecumseh-born **Dustin Burwell,** whose conversational style of comedy draws on his Mexican heritage and his experience as a father. Also, a set by local singer-songwriter **Nadim Azzam,** whose style blends acoustic blues, pop, & hip-hop. Adult content. *7:45 p.m, Pointless Brewery & Theatre, 3014 Packard. $8 in advance at Info@PointlessBrew.com; $10 at the door. (989) 455–4484.*

9 Thursday

★**"Colorful Sharpie Coasters": Ann Arbor District Library.** All invited to design your own coasters. *3–5 p.m., AADL Traverwood, 3333 Traverwood. Free. 327–4200.*

★**"Historical Networks in Chinese Buddhism: The Role of the Daoan, Huiyuan and Kumārajīva Triangle": U-M Library.** Talk by Temple University humanities professor Marcus Bingenheimer. *3 p.m., U-M Clark Library, Hatcher Grad Library, 2nd fl., enter from the Diag. Free. 936–2354.*

"Cheese Board Essentials": Zingerman's Creamery. Zingerman's staffers discuss how to pair complimentary artisan cheeses, charcuterie, and other sweet and salty accompaniments. Tasting. *6:30–8:30 p.m., Zingerman's Creamery, 3723 Plaza Dr. $50, preregistration required. 929–0500.*

★**"Inventors Series: Hassan Assabbah": Ann Arbor District Library.** AADL staffers discuss this Lebanese engineer, who invented the solar cell in 1930. Then, engage in a solar cell-related activity TBA. *6:30–8 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4200.*

★**"Sustainability Forum: Adaptation and Resilience": City of Ann Arbor/Ann Arbor District Library.** All invited to discuss, with local sustainability experts TBA, how to ensure that Ann Arbor institutions, businesses, & residents have the ability to thrive in the face of disturbance. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown multipurpose rm., 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4200, 794–6430 ext. 45568.*

★**"Great Lakes Rocks: 4 Billion Years of Geologic History in the Great Lakes Region": Ann Arbor District Library.** U-M geology profes-

the arts

Going Viral

Artists debut a new stage.

LR NUÑEZ

The economic effects of Covid-19 have already battered nearly every category of workers in the nation as well as in the local labor force. One group particularly hard hit has been performing artists. A small but representative sample of area musicians, including Mustard's Retreat, Gemini, the Ragbirds, and Peter Madcat Ruth, report having every one of their concerts—in concert halls, coffeehouses, clubs, schools, and senior centers—canceled through the end of April.

It's not only a local phenomenon, of course. David Tamulevich, one of the founders of Mustard's Retreat, also runs Tamulevich Artist Management which books nationally known artists such as Peter Yarrow and John Gorka, among nearly twenty others. Every one of them lost all of their gigs—and most of their livelihood—overnight. Tamulevich has been trying to reschedule the lost dates, but he's not bothering to book anything earlier than August. The uncertainty about when venues will be allowed to reopen is complicating the usual difficulties of coordinating venues' and artists' schedules and touring routes. Plus, some concerts are tied to specific events. You can't reschedule a St. Patrick's Day gig or an Earth Day Festival for August.

Many musicians also rely on CD sales for part of their income, but, other than for nationally known household names, most of their sales come at live shows. And income from streaming services like Spotify is, for most, a minuscule percentage of their livelihood.

But artists know a thing or two about flexibility and creativity. Percussionist John Churchville, who has been hosting Indian Music Nights at the Crazy Wisdom Tea Room once a month for the past 140 months, also lost a number of live shows and faced the prospect of having to cancel the next IMN in the series. Instead, he has decided to hold the 141st IMN in his basement and livestream the event (using four cameras and an independent sound mixer) on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and LinkedIn. A number of other musicians have been livestreaming their music using just an iPhone.

Erin Zindle and the Ragbirds have also responded to the closure of public spaces by offering livestreamed music. In their case, they have decided to create a whole series entitled Live from the Bird House—Erin Zindle's basement—where they plan to feature a number of local musicians in concert and livestream the shows via Facebook. As Zindle wrote in introducing the series, "The gigs may be canceled but we can't let the music stop! I'm not bitter about the show cancellations and I understand the wisdom behind social distancing right now. I am passionate about continuing to find ways to keep the music flowing to people in isolation because it is medicine for the soul."

The debut show from the Bird House on March 15 featured harmonica wizard Peter Madcat Ruth, accompanied by Mike Shimmin on drums, Brennan Andes on bass, and Ross Huff on trumpet, offering a couple hours of superb blues and roots music. At one point, Shimmin joked that the gig felt like one of his first ones years ago, which he remembered was also in a basement in front of about three people.

While there were only a handful of people in the live audience in Zindle's basement, the next morning Madcat said that more than 3,600 watched the event online—"a lot more people than I usually get at one of my shows." The following night at the Bird House, Zindle and the Ragbirds turned in another of the spirited, multifaceted shows their many fans have come to love.

The Indian Music Night concert and the Bird House shows were free, but Zindle and the Ragbirds gave fans the option of making band donations. Churchville said that some fans offered donations even before the show started.

A small number of musicians have been somewhat less affected by the concert cancellations. While Chelsea-based award-winning composer and pianist Brian Brill lost all his live gigs, other aspects of his work, such as making recordings in his home attic studio and creating music for ads, have, so far, not been affected. "Will that continue?" he asks. "Hard to say." He adds that almost all the musicians who work in the ad world have long been working from their homes. "There's been less and less getting together." Brill also has a number of composing commissions. "Those, fortunately, are quite a bit out into the future, so I'm going to continue working on those. My guess is I'll have more time than usual to do that."

It hasn't been only musicians who have been suddenly affected. Wild Swan children's theater company founder Sandy Ryder said that, beginning on March 12, they lost dozens of shows that were scheduled in schools and other venues throughout Michigan and the income from them. Despite this, Wild Swan paid all its actors through the end of March. However, Ryder is uncertain about what will happen next and how long they can hold out without doing live shows.

"The hard thing now is how to predict what's going to happen. Will schools reopen on April 6?" She adds a few things that eloquently echoed what many of the musicians also mentioned. "What's going to happen to bring our normal back? We love what we do, so it's not just that we don't have the work, it's that we don't *get* to work. That's part of life for me!"

—San Slomovits

seniors

Ann Arbor Senior Center (1320 Baldwin Ave., 794–6250). Weekly activities; closed through Apr. 5, at least. **Chinese Mah-Jongg** ($2; members, free). Mon. noon–3 p.m. **Bridge.** ACBL nonsanctioned (Mon. 12:30–3:30 p.m., $3; members, $2) & sanctioned (Wed. & Thurs. noon, $7; members, $6). **Euchre** ($2; members, free). Mon. 6–8 p.m. **Scrabble** ($2; members, free). Tues. 10 a.m.–noon., with lunch available (11:30 a.m.–12:15 p.m., $5.50; age 60 & over, $3). **American Mah-Jongg** ($2; members, free). Wed. noon–3 p.m. **Movie Matinee** ($2; members, free). Informal screening of a DVD TBA in the lobby. Popcorn. Wed. 1–3 p.m.

U-M Turner Senior Wellness Program (2401 Plymouth Rd., 998–9353). Free weekly activities. **Bridge.** No partner needed; some experience necessary. Mon. & Fri. 12:30–4:30 p.m. **Walking Group.** Canceled for inclement weather, Mon., Wed., & Fri. 12:30–1 p.m. **Chess.** Wed. 1–4 p.m. **"Wise Guys."** Conversation group for men. Thurs. 1:30–3 p.m. **Mah-Jongg.** Beginners welcome. Thurs. 10 a.m.–noon. **Writing Group.** Participants read and discuss their poetry, essays, fiction, and reminiscences. Apr. 6, 1–3 p.m. **"Una Tertulia."** Socializing group for Spanish speakers. Apr. 6 & 20, 3–4 p.m. **"Please Don't Hate Me: A Step Forward in Understanding LGBTQ Older Adults."** Talk by Services & Advocacy for LGBT Elders (SAGE) Metro Detroit education coordinator Judy Lewis. Apr. 15, 10–11:30 a.m.; preregistration required. **Scrabble.** Apr. 21, 2–4 p.m. **Crafting Group.** Bring your own craft to work on. Apr. 21, 3–4:30 p.m. **"Why Am I Dizzy? Exploring the Inner Ear Balance System."** Talk by Michigan Medicine audiologist Margot Beckerman. Apr. 29, 10–11:30 a.m.; preregistration required.

sor emeritus Stephen Kesler discusses his recent book and shows regional rock samples. Signing. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown 4th fl. meeting rm., 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4200.*

★**Foodie Book Club: Nicola's Books.** All invited to discuss ***Gulp: Adventures on the Alimentary Canal***, Mary Roach's popular 2013 book about the science of eating & digesting. *7 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate. Free, preregistration suggested. 662–0600.*

★**"Open Mic & Share": Bookbound.** Local poets Leslie McGraw and David Jibson discuss submitting your writing for publication. Event begins with an open mic; all invited to read their own work or a favorite poem by another writer. Refreshments. *7 p.m., Bookbound, Courtyard Shops. Free. 369–4345.*

★**Ander Monson: Literati Bookstore.** This Arizona State University English professor reads from *The Gnome Stories*, his 2020 collection of short stories about loners, and from *I Will Take the Answer*, his 2020 book of essays about how the future, past, & present are connected. Signing. *7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585–5567.*

Keith Ruff: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *Apr. 9–11.* This Detroit-area comic is known for his crisp, clever, slightly twisted topical commentary and his high-spirited, often whimsical performing style. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. *7:30 p.m. (Thurs.–Sat.) & 10 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 212 S. Fourth Ave. $9 (Thurs.) & $12 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance at etix.com before 5 p.m. the night of the show; $11 (Thurs.) & $14 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

"Paint Night": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 2 Thursday. 8 p.m.

10 Friday

★**"Paint by Sticker": Ann Arbor District Library.** All invited to create images using stickers. *2–3:30 p.m., AADL Pittsfield, 2359 Oak Valley. Free. 327–4200.*

★**"Bob Ross Paint-Along": Ann Arbor District Library.** All invited to paint a winter scene while watching an episode of Ross's iconic 1980s PBS TV show, *The Joy of Painting*. Materials provided. Bring an old shirt or apron to paint in, if you like. *6–7:30 p.m., AADL Downtown lobby, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4200.*

★**Kiese Laymon: Neutral Zone.** Youth-led reading and community dialogue with this University of Mississippi writing professor, whose 2018 memoir ***Heavy*** explores his complex relationship with his mother, grandmother, anorexia, obesity, race, sex, writing, and gambling. Q&A. *6 p.m., Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. Free. 214–9995.*

★**"World Famous Trivia Night 10th Anniversary": Ann Arbor District Library.** For adults. Prizes. *6:30–8:30 p.m., AADL Westgate. Free. 327–4200.*

★**Senior Recital: EMU Music Department.** EMU senior trumpeters perform a program TBA. *7 p.m., EMU Alexander Recital Hall, Lowell at E. Circle Dr., Ypsilanti. Free. 276–4212.*

★**Wesley Browne: Literati Bookstore.** This Kentucky novelist reads from *Hillbilly Hustle*, his 2019 crime thriller about a small-town pizza shop owner who gets roped into dealing marijuana. Signing. *7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585–5567.*

"Creatures of the Night": The Creature Conservancy. All adults invited to view a red kangaroo, crested porcupines, and other nocturnal animals in their habitats. Also, educational presentations of a cougar, coyote, and opossum. *7–9 p.m., Creature Conservancy, 4950 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. $15, preregistration required at TheCreatureConservancy.org. 929–9324.*

"The Parliament of Poets": Apollo's Troupe. See 3 Friday. 7 p.m.

Advanced English Dance: Ann Arbor Community for Traditional Music and Dance. A local caller TBA leads dances to live music by a band TBA. *7:30–10:30 p.m., Concourse Hall, 4531 Concourse (off S. State across from the airport). $12 (members, $10). (248) 288–4737.*

★**"Welcoming the Unwelcome": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room.** All invited to join a discussion, led by Crazy Wisdom owner Bill Zirinsky, of American Tibetan Buddhist Pema Chödrön's 2019 book of spiritual teachings that encourage finding common ground with others. *7:30–9 p.m., 114 S. Main. Free. 665–2757.*

Keith Ruff: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 9 Thursday. 7:30 & 10 p.m.

"Paint Night": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 2 Thursday. 8 p.m.

11 Saturday

★**"Wetland to Woods Bird Walk": Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission.** Naturalist Faye Stoner leads a hike to look for migrating birds. Bring binoculars and a field guide, if you have them. Beginners welcome. *8–10 a.m., Trinkle Preserve, 1145 N. Dancer Rd., Dexter. Free. 971–6337.*

★**Volunteer Stewardship Workday: Ann Arbor Natural Area Preservation Division.** *Apr. 11, 18, 19, 25, & 26.* All invited to help maintain natural areas and remove invasive plants in various city parks. Wear long pants and closed-toe shoes; tools, snacks, & know-how provided. Minors must be accompanied by an adult or obtain a release form in advance. *Apr. 11 (9 a.m.–noon):* **Berkshire Creek Nature Area,** meet at the end of Warwick Rd. off of Glenwood, north of Washtenaw Ave. *Apr. 18 (1–4 p.m.):* **Folkstone Park,** meet at the parking entrance at the north end of Folkstone. *Apr. 19 (9 a.m.–noon):* **Marshall Nature Area Preserve,** meet at the parking lot off of Dixboro Rd., north of Plymouth Rd. *Apr. 25 (9 a.m.–noon):* **Sunset Brooks Nature Area,** meet at the park parking lot, just over the wooden bridge. *Apr. 25 (1–4 p.m.):* **Bird Hills Nature Area,** meet at the park entrance on Bird Rd., west of Huron River Dr. *Apr. 26 (9 a.m.–noon):* **Leslie Woods Nature Area,** meet at the park entrance at the north end of Upland Dr., north of Plymouth Rd. *Various times & locations. Free. 794–6627.*

★**"Spring Styling": Mast Shoes.** Local stylist, illustrator, and fashion writer Lauren Friedman discusses shoe styles for spring and demonstrates how to style sandals, sneakers, & more. *10 a.m., Mast Shoes, 2519 Jackson Ave. Free. 662–8118.*

★**"Processing Community Day 2020": Ann Arbor District Library.** All grade 6–adult invited to learn how to use Processing, a JavaScript program which teaches coding using animation. Local coders and U-M performing arts technology professor Anıl Çamcı on hand to answer questions. *Noon–4 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab, Training Center, & multipurpose rm. Free. 327–4200.*

★**"Food Fights: How History Matters to Contemporary Food Debates": Ann Arbor District Library.** U-M sustainable food systems lecturer Margot Finn & food writer Charles Ludington discuss their respective chapters in this recent collection of essays about food politics, from the promises and failures of agricultural technology to the politics of taste. Q&A. Signing. *1–2:30 p.m., AADL Downtown 4th fl. meeting rm., 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4200.*

"Paint Night": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 2 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Cheese 101": Zingerman's Creamery. Discussion & tasting of the 7 major varieties of cheese. With bread and other accompaniments. *3–5 p.m., Zingerman's Creamery, 3723 Plaza Dr. $40, preregistration required. 929–0500.*

"Curling Fest": Chelsea Area Chamber of Commerce. All invited to join or bring their own 4-player team for a 1-hour session of curling instruction followed by a short informal scrimmage. This team sport is nicknamed "the roaring game" for the rumbling sound the 44-lb. granite stone makes as it slides across the ice. Pizza, salad, & pop. Spectators welcome. *7–11 p.m., Arctic Coliseum, 501 Coliseum Dr., Chelsea. Tickets $30 per person (buffet only, $15) in advance at a2tix.com. 475–1145.*

"A Reassessment of Life on this Planet": Frederick Glaysher. See 5 Sunday. 7 p.m.

Keith Ruff: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 9 Thursday. 7:30 & 10 p.m.

David Vaughn: Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth Cafe 704. Local big-voiced singer-pianist whose repertoire ranges from opera and gospel to Broadway and folk music. *8 p.m., Interfaith Center, 704 Airport Blvd., ste. 1. Tickets $8 (2 for $15). 327–0270.*

12 Sunday

"Comparative Cupping": Zingerman's Coffee Company. Zingerman's Coffee staff offer taste samples of coffees from around the world using the tools and techniques of professional tasters. *Noon–2 p.m., Zingerman's Coffee Company, 3723 Plaza Dr. $30, preregistration required. 929–6060.*

"Paint Night": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 2 Thursday. 2 p.m.

Contact Improv. *Apr. 12 & 26.* All invited to try this interactive, free-form dance style led by Cara Nicole Graninger. This month's special **non-contact session** includes no physical contact (all participants maintain 6 feet of distance from others), featuring solo explorations, ensemble improvisations, and dancing. Followed by discussion. *3–5 p.m., Spiral Studio, 124 W. Summit, ste. F. $5–$10, or pay what you can. (313) 585–2598.*

"8 Pointless Minutes: A Long-Form Improv Jam": Pointless Brewery & Theatre. All invited to form groups to perform an 8-minute improv sketch. No experience necessary. Spectators welcome. *7:30 p.m., Pointless, 3014 Packard. Pay what you can. (989) 455–4484.*

13 Monday

★**"Maker City": Ann Arbor District Library.** All invited to make an addition to the AADL scale model city in the form of a bridge, tower, windmill, airport, park, or other feature. The finished model city will be shown at the Ann Arbor Creativity & Making expo on May 17. Materials provided. *6–8 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab. Free. 327–4200.*

★**"Hope and Healing: One Piece at a Time": Ann Arbor Fiberarts Guild.** Royal Oak mosaic artist Mary Gilhuly discusses her work, which

★ *Denotes a free event*

honors those affected by tragedies such as the Sandy Hook school shooting and the terrorist kidnapping of Nigerian girls. Program begins with socializing and displays of members' work. *6:30 p.m., Zion Lutheran Church Piper Hall (lower level, enter on the east side of the building and take elevator down), 1501 W. Liberty. Free. AnnArborFiberArts.org*

★**"Grant at Chattanooga": Ann Arbor Civil War Round Table.** Civil War enthusiast Dave Powell discusses Ulysses S. Grant's role in this battle. *7 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Administrative Bldg. Education Center Exhibition Rm., 5305 Elliott Dr. Free. (517) 750–2741.*

★**Local Writers Live: Ann Arbor District Library.** Five writers briefly read from their books. **Charles Taylor** with *Dark Rhythm,* a thriller about a woman who wakes without identity or background. **Naomi Chapman** with the novel *Zombie Apocalypse at the Inn.* **Jose Antunes** with *Aliens in Dexter MI 48130,* a teen novel about neighbors searching for the whereabouts of flying saucers. **Anthony Brogdon** with *Black Business Book,* a compilation of black history facts from the 1800s to the 1960s, with an emphasis on business in America. **Dwight L. Wilson** with *The Kidnapped, The Resistors,* & the *Esi Was My Mother* series, all works of historical fiction that offer nuanced perspectives on slavery. **Angela Berent** demonstrates how to use her journals, *List Your Life: A Modern Day Memoir & Trace Your Travels: An Adventure Journal.* Signings. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Westgate. Free. 327–4200.*

★**Scandinavian Music Jam.** Bruce Sagan and Brad Battey lead an acoustic jam session devoted to traditional music from Sweden and Norway. All instruments welcome. *7:30–9:30 p.m., Great Oak Cohousing common area, 500 Little Lake Dr. Free. (908) 721–2599.*

★**Percussion Ensemble Concert: EMU Music Department.** EMU percussion students perform a program featuring Lepak's *Crescendo,* Mozart's *Eine Kleine Nachtmusik,* Skidmore's *Ritual Music,* and more. *7:30 p.m., EMU Pease Auditorium, 494 College Pl., Ypsilanti. Free. 487–0330.*

14 Tuesday

★**"Japanese Bookbinding": Ann Arbor District Library.** All invited to learn an East Asian style of bookbinding, which involves sewing together single sheets of paper. *6–8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4200.*

★**Playwriting Club: The Brass Tacks Ensemble.** This local troupe leads writing exercises focused on one-act and full-length plays. *6:30–8:30 p.m., Ann Arbor District Downtown Library Lamplighter Rm. Free. BTEpublicity@gmail.com*

★**Astronomy on Tap.** Two scientists TBA discuss their astronomy-related research. Also, casual trivia and mingling. *7 p.m., Pizza House, 618 Church St. Free. Astronomy.On.Tap.Ann.Arbor@gmail.com*

★**Breeding Bird Survey Kickoff/Turtle Steward Kickoff: Ann Arbor Natural Area Preservation.** A chance to learn about the City's upcoming annual survey of breeding bird populations in town. There are also training sessions (preregistration required by Apr. 10) for volunteers to help with the survey. Also, on Apr. 25, a similar kickoff for **"Turtle Stewards"** (1:30–3:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin) to learn how to monitor and help maintain the 6 turtle species that live and nest in the city. Preregistration required for that training session by Apr. 22. *7–9 p.m., Natural Area Preservation Office, 3875 E. Huron River Dr. Free. nap@a2gov.org; 794–6627.*

★**"The Stars My Destination": Fantasy and Science Fiction/Theory Reading Group: U-M English Department.** All age 21 & over invited to discuss Alfred Bester's classic 1956 sci-fi novel about an interplanetary traveler on a revenge mission. *7–9 p.m., 3154 Angell Hall. Free. 764–2553.*

"Bluegrass Jam Circle": Ann Arbor Senior Center. *Apr. 14 & 28.* All musicians invited to bring their acoustic instruments to play bluegrass-style music. Vocalists welcome, too. *7–9 p.m., Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin Ave. $5. a2blueGrass.com, 794–6250.*

Matt Watroba: Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). FolkAlley.com host Watroba sings lyrical songs and poignant ballads in a sweet tenor voice, accompanying himself on guitar. Tonight's concert is a CD release party for Watroba's *The Far Si: The Si Kahn Funny Song Sing-along Song Book. 7 p.m., FUMC Green Wood, 1001 Green Rd. Tickets $15 cash at the door only. 665–8558.*

★**"Pub Sing": Ann Arbor Morris.** Local Morris dancers lead an evening of rousing choruses, drinking songs, sea shanties, and English folk songs. Food & drinks available. *7–10 p.m., Wolverine State Brewing Co., 2019 W. Stadium. Free. (908) 721–2599.*

★**"Inheritors of the Earth: How Nature is Thriving in an Age of Extinction": Sierra Club Book Club.** All invited to discuss this book by entomologist Chris D. Thomas. *7:30 p.m., Nicola's Books, Westgate. Free. 971–1157.*

★**Ann Arbor Alumni Chapter of Mu Phi Epsilon International Professional Music Fraternity 13th Annual Concert.** Concert featuring Mu Phi Epsilon members and friends. Program: Violinists Anne Ogren and Martha Froseth & violist Joseph Lange perform Dvorák's Terzetto in C major. Flutist Deborah Rebeck Ash, saxophonist Bruce Cowan, & pianist Heidi Cowan perform Catherine Rollins' *Suite Detroit: Sounds of an American City.* Pianist Heidi Cowan performs Harold Arlen's "Over the Rainbow" from *The Wizard of Oz* and George Gershwin's "I Got Rhythm." Mezzo-soprano Nancy Murphy and pianist Heidi Cowan perform Vincent Youmans, Billy Rose, and Edward Eliscu's "Without a Song." Clarinetist Marcia Anderson, cellist Margaret Weiss, & pianist Kathryn West perform Robert Muczynski's *Fantasy Trio.* Also, 6 short pieces by a woodwind quartet. Reception follows. *8 p.m., Community of Christ Church, 520 W. Jefferson (parking available on street & at Bach Elementary School). Free, donations accepted to fund scholarships for U–M and EMU students who are Mu Phi Epsilon chapter members. AnnArborAlumni-mpe.org*

15 Wednesday

"Paint Night": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 2 Thursday. 3 p.m.

"Spirit Garden: Conversations of the Movement of Eastern Philosophy and Practices to the West and Western Native Indigenous Spiritualities": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room. Talk by Dexter chiropractor Alan Boyce. Followed by discussion. *6–8:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. $10. 426–4140.*

★**Channeled Spiritual Discussion Group: Deep Spring Discussion Center.** All invited to discuss their metaphysical questions with others with similar interests. The evening is led by Aaron, a "being of light" channeled by Barbara Brodsky, who offers a talk on a variety of spiritual practices. *7–9:30 p.m., 704 Airport Blvd. Free, donations accepted. 477–5848.*

★**"Basic Cake Decorating": Ann Arbor District Library.** Lakehouse Bakery (Chelsea) owner Keegan Rodgers leads a hands-on demo on how to make & use a variety of frostings. Tastings. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Westgate. Free. 327–4200.*

★**"The Beautiful Hand: History, Development, and Styles of Arabic Calligraphy": Ann Arbor District Library.** Lecture-demo by Palestine-raised Detroit Mercy University mechanical engineering professor Nihad Dukhan. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown 4th fl. meeting rm., 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4200.*

★**"Manitou Mysteries Shipwreck Adventure": Ann Arbor District Library.** Lake Ann–based shipwreck hunter Ross Richardson discusses his new book exploring the histories and mysteries of the Manitou Passage in Lake Michigan, one of the deadliest areas on the Great Lakes. Signing. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown multipurpose rm., 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4200.*

★**David Baker & Page Starzinger: Literati Bookstore.** Ohio-based poet Baker reads from *Swift,* his 2019 collection about death of parents, loss of homeland, the Midwest, and the Caribbean. NYC-based poet Starzinger reads from *Vortex Street,* her brand-new collection about lost youth. Signing. *7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585–5567.*

★**Culinary History Reading Group: Motte & Bailey Booksellers.** All invited to discuss *Port,* Rupert Croft-Cooke's 1957 book about port wine. *7:30–9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 669–0451.*

fiction

Lauren Groff

The jungle waits.

MEGAN BROWN

Lauren Groff's last two books have been shortlisted for the National Book Award. Her 2015 novel *Fates and Furies*, a detailed exploration of the different ways the two people in one marriage can understand their relationship, was on more "Best of Year" lists than any other book that year. In fact, it was President Obama's favorite book of 2015 (remember when we waited for the president's book list?).

Typically for Groff, the novel had more than one subject; it also dealt with questions of art and of how we make art in and out of our ordinary lives. As the title suggests, Groff is willing and able to sprinkle classical references throughout the book. She does so easily and unobtrusively.

The kind of reference in her short story collection *Florida* is entirely different. Her lyrical prose style, often just up to the edge of poetic flourish before it pulls back into a rich and evocative space, is the same in both books. But here it turns to the natural world and our tenuous place in it.

Groff's *Florida* is not the state of amusement parks and golf courses. Here the jungle waits just outside the suburban window or just on the other side of the manicured grass. There are things out there that want to eat us! In "Above and Below" a woman who has fallen past society's safety nets stumbles outside the circle of campfire light and into the dark, where "insect noise [takes] on urgency" and the world is "unexpectedly teeming." Things get more dangerous:

> She thought of the snakes sleeping coiled in their burrows and the alligators surfacing to scent her in the darkness, their shimmy onto the land, their stealthy bellying; how she was only one living lost thing among so many others, not special for being human. Something crawled across her throat.

In "Yport," a mother takes her two young sons to France hoping to do some research for a novel. But on the coast of Normandy she feels the same alienation she lives with back in Florida. Typically among Groff's protagonists in these stories, she's a woman on the cusp of middle age, only recently arrived in the middle class, and at least uncomfortable, if not desperate, in the situation of her life. In "Yport," feeling cold and excluded on the Normandy coast, she reflects:

> She can't stop the thought that children born now will be the last generation of humans. Her sons have known only luck so far, though suffering will surely come for them. She feels it nearing, the midnight of humanity. Their world is so full of beauty, the last terrible flash of beauty before the long darkness.

Yes, the paragraph reveals the soul of the character, but it also sounds a bit like prophecy.

Lauren Groff's April 7 & 9 readings at UMMA have been canceled, but at press time, Literati had copies of *Florida* in stock and available for pickup.

—Keith Taylor

★**EMU Cello: EMU Music Department.** EMU cello students perform works by Bach, Offenbach, Schumann, Britten, Smyth, Saint-Saëns, and more. *7:30 p.m., EMU Alexander Recital Hall, Lowell at E. Circle Dr., Ypsilanti. Free. 486–1336.*

"Stand Up Science": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. Award-winning stand-up comedian and science podcaster **Shane Mauss** hosts a show, at once funny and thought-provoking, in which local scientists TBA present their research in between performances by cerebral stand-up comics TBA. *7:30 p.m., 212 S. Fourth Ave. $18 reserved seating in advance at etix.com before 5 p.m. the night of the show; $25 general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

★**"My Life in Jazz: A Woman's Perspective": AAUW-Ann Arbor.** Popular local pianist **Ellen Rowe,** a U-M jazz professor, discusses recruiting female jazz students in a male-dominated field. *7:45 p.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. Free. (844) 973–6287.*

16 Thursday

★**Ann Arbor Area Piano Teachers Guild.** Talks by guild members. Sheila Bloch on "Thinking Outside the Box to Bring the Muse Back into Music: Unconventional ideas on technique and interpretation to inspire teachers, students, and performers." Lynn Zwinck on "Everyone Should Have the Right to Make Music: Discover surprising opportunities for teaching by reaching underserved populations: adults, special needs, low income, and incarcerated." *10 a.m., Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 665–5346.*

★**"Women in the Civil War": Daughters of the American Revolution.** Talk by Bill Grandstaff, president & founder of the Rochester Hills–based Israel B. Richardson Civil War Round Table. *1 p.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. Free, email LaurenSmith50@gmail.com to preregister. 276–3935.*

★**"Lights … Cameras … Maps! The Cartography of Classic films": U-M Clark Library Open House.** Display of maps of the locations of classic movies like *Casablanca, Roman Holiday,* and more. 4–7 p.m., *U-M Clark Library, Hatcher Grad Library 2nd fl., enter from the Diag. Free. 936–2354.*

"Cheese & Jam Pairing": Zingerman's Creamery. Zingerman's staffers discuss and offer taste samples of fruit preserves paired with artisan cheeses. *6:30–8:30 p.m., Zingerman's Creamery, 3723 Plaza Dr. $40, preregistration required. 929–0500.*

★**"3-D Lab: Design & Printing": Ann Arbor District Library.** All invited to learn the basic functions of the modeling program Tinkercad and

design an object to 3-D print. *6:30–8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4200.*

★**Sci-fi/Fantasy Book Club: Nicola's Books.** All invited to discuss ***Red Mars,*** Kim Stanley Robinson's 1993 sci-fi novel about a mission to colonize Mars. *7 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate. Free, call to preregister. 662–0600.*

★**"Cardamom": Neutral Zone.** Spoken word poet **Na Faaris,** the Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti youth poet laureate, reads from her debut collection, which explores her experience as an Arab woman, an American citizen, and a refugee. Q&A. *7 p.m., Literati Bookstore, 124 E. Washington. Free. 214–9995.*

★**"10 Things I Wish I'd Known": Ann Arbor District Library.** Podcast pioneer **Jesse Thorn,** known as the host of *Bullseye* (formerly *The Sound of Young America),* shares lessons learned from nearly 2 decades of podcasting. *7–8 p.m., AADL Downtown lobby, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4200.*

★**"Nerd Nite": Ann Arbor District Library.** Popular monthly event featuring 3 speakers TBA (at AnnArbor.NerdNite.com) who give fun yet informative 20-minute talks about things that interest them, from nanoparticles to the science of the Simpsons and the genealogy of Godzilla. *7–9:30 p.m., doors open at 6:30 p.m., Live, 102 S. First. Free. 327–4200.*

★**"John E. Fetzer and the Quest for the New Age": Ann Arbor District Library.** WMU American religious history professor Brian Wilson discusses his new biography about achievements of this radio & TV executive best known as the owner of the Detroit Tigers from 1961 through 1983. Complimentary signed copies available for attendees. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown 4th fl. meeting rm., 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4200.*

★**Loralee Songer: EMU Music Department.** This Taylor University (IN) music professor, a mezzo-soprano, performs a program of art songs. With pianist Perry Mears. *7:30 p.m., EMU Honors College, 511 W. Forest, Ypsilanti. Free.*

"Antigone": Huron High School Players. *Apr. 16, 18, 25, & 26.* Students perform an adaptation of Sophocles' classical tragedy about a woman destroyed by the conflict between family loyalty and honor and the demands of the state. *7:30 p.m. (except Apr. 26, 2 p.m.), HHS, 2727 Fuller. Ticket prices TBA. 994–2040.*

Jackie Kashian: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *Apr. 16–18.* This veteran Milwaukee-bred stand-up comic is a frequent performer on cable TV who has also had her own Comedy Central special. Her acts blend storytelling with sharp commentary on a mix of both momentous and trivial topics. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. *7:30 p.m. (Thurs.–Sat.) & 10 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 212 S. Fourth Ave. $13 (Thurs.) & $15 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance at etix.com before 5 p.m. the night of the show; $15 (Thurs.) & $17 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

"Paint Night": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 2 Thursday. 8 p.m.

17 Friday

"Empty Bowls Fundraiser": Poor People's Campaign Fundraiser. Sale of soup, bread, & desserts, served in handmade ceramic bowls that are also for sale. *4–9 p.m., Strong Tower Ministries, 134 Spencer Ln., Ypsilanti. $25 minimum donation ($5 for those who are financially insecure). (248) 496–4104.*

★**"Night of the Living Word": Ann Arbor District Library.** All invited to create experimental poems. *6–8 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4200.*

★**"Die-Cutter & Embosser Open Lab": Ann Arbor District Library.** All invited to use AADL die-cutters and embossers, machines used to imprint designs onto low-strength materials such as paper, rubber, and plastics. Bring your own project to work on or use the provided materials to start one. *6–8 p.m., AADL Westgate. Free. 327–4200.*

4th Annual Silent Auction & Chorale Cabaret: Ann Arbor Youth Chorale. Members of this group of talented young local singers present a song-and-dance variety show, and the entire chorus performs works TBA. Silent auction. Proceeds benefit AAYC. *6:30 p.m., First Baptist Church, 517 E. Washington. Free admission. 996–4404.*

"The Great American Trailer Park Musical": Dexter Community Players. *Apr. 17–19.* Brian Rose directs this local theater company in a dinner theater production of David Nehls and Betsy Kelso's 2005 Off-Broadway musical comedy about a new tenant wreaking havoc in Florida's most exclusive trailer park. For mature audiences. Cash bar. *6:30 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.) & 1:30 p.m. (Sun.), Columbus Hall & Banquet Center, 8265 Dexter-Chelsea Rd., Dexter. $40 (seniors & students, $35) in advance only at dcp.yapsody.com. 726–0355.*

★**"Michigan Review of Prisoner Creative Writing": Literati Bookstore.** Readers TBA present excerpts from the annual edition of the Prison Creative Arts Project book, which features work by incarcerated and formerly incarcerated writers. *7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585–5567.*

★**Advanced Dance Composition Concert: EMU Dance Department.** EMU dance students perform original choreography. *7–9 p.m., EMU Warner Gymnasium, 799 Putnam-Phelps, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2849.*

★**Spring Orchestra Concert: EMU Music Department.** Chad Hutchinson conducts this music student orchestra in a program highlighted by a performance of Jacques Ibert's Concerto for Flute featuring the EMU concerto competition winner, flute major Kayla Cieslak. Also, Libby Larsen's *Overture for the End of a Century* and Haydn's Symphony #104 in D minor. *7:30 p.m., EMU Pease Auditorium, 494 College Pl., Ypsilanti. Free. 487–0294.*

Jackie Kashian: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 16 Thursday. 7:30 & 10 p.m.

"Paint Night": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 2 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Don Campbell: Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). Veteran Portland (ME) country-flavored folk-rock singer-songwriter whose influences range from the Celtic and Canadian Maritimes music of his family to Vince Gill, the Beatles, and novelist Stephen King. Tonight he performs material from his 23-song collection *Kites to Fly: Celebrating the Music of Dan Fogelberg. 8 p.m., FUMC Green Wood, 1001 Green Rd. Tickets $20 in advance at EventBrite.com and at the door. 665–8558.*

18 Saturday

Best Buddies Friendship Walk. Pledge walk to raise funds for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Followed by a party. *10 a.m. (registration begins at 8:30 a.m.), WCC, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. $10 minimum donation. Preregistration required at BestBuddiesFriendshipWalk.org/Michigan. (330) 285–9399.*

"Earth Day Family 5K": Pittsfield Township Parks & Rec. All-ages 5k run/walk. Medals for finishers. *10 a.m., Lillie Park, 4365 Platt. $35 per person (residents, $30) & $80 per family (residents, $75); preregistration required by Apr. 3. 822–2120.*

★**"Planning Your Vegetable Garden": Project Grow Community Garden.** Project Grow gardeners Joet Reoma and Royer Held teach how to design a garden layout, select vegetables to grow, manage weeds, and more. *10 a.m.–12 p.m., Ann Arbor Center for Independent Living, 3941 Research Park Dr. Free. 971–0277.*

★**Death Café.** All invited to join a frank conversation about death. Hosted by After Death Home Care founder Merilynne Rush and Diana Cramer. Tea & cake served. *10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Rm., 114 S. Main. Free. 395–9660.*

★**"Write On!" Short Story Contest Awards Celebration: Ann Arbor District Library.** Speaker TBA gives talk and presents awards to the winners of the AADL short story contest for grades 3–5. *1–2 p.m., AADL Westgate. Free. 327–4200.*

★**Low Brass Concert: EMU Music Department.** EMU euphonium, trombone, and tuba students perform a program of solo works TBA. Also, tomorrow at 4 p.m., the same students perform ensemble works. *2–3:30 p.m., EMU Pease Auditorium, 494 College Pl., Ypsilanti. Free. 487–6842.*

"Paint Night": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 2 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Raw Milk Appreciation Day": Zingerman's Creamery. Zingerman's staffers discuss and offer taste samples of an assortment of cheeses made with raw milk. *3–5 p.m., Zingerman's Creamery, 3723 Plaza Dr. $45. 929–0500.*

★**"Magic: The Gathering": Ann Arbor District Library.** All invited to compete in an informal session of this popular collectible card game. No official judges or format. Bring your own cards or use those available. No experience necessary. *6–8 p.m., AADL Westgate. Free. 327–4200.*

"The Great American Trailer Park Musical": Dexter Community Players. See 17 Friday. 6:30 p.m.

"The Parliament of Poets": Apollo's Troupe. See 3 Friday. 7 p.m.

"Antigone": Huron High School Players. See 16 Thursday. 7:30 p.m.

Jackie Kashian: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 16 Thursday. 7:30 & 10 p.m.

★**"Timberdoodle Sky Dance": Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission.** Naturalist Kelsey Dehring leads a hike to look for the American woodcock (aka timberdoodle), known for zig-zagging courtship flights. Wear waterproof boots. *7:45–9 p.m., Leonard Preserve, meet at the dead end of Union St. north off Main west of M-52, Manchester. Free. 971–6337.*

The Emery Plews Band: Stony Lake Brewing Acoustic Routes Concert. Ypsilanti postpunk country ensemble led by singer-guitarist Alayna Plews and singer-bassist Anthony Emery. Their originals & covers draw from influences as diverse as Townes Van Zandt, Mavis Staples, Iggy Pop, the Stray Cats, and actual stray cats. *8 p.m., Stony Lake Brewing, 447 E. Michigan Ave., Saline. Tickets $10 at the door only. 316–7919.*

★**University Lowbrow Astronomers.** *Apr. 18 & 25.* A chance to join local astronomy buffs for a look at the sky through instruments. Participants encouraged to bring their own telescopes. Visitors must turn off all electronic equipment (car radios, transmitters, phones, etc.) at the observatory entrance. Canceled if sky is overcast at sunset or if the weather is extremely inclement. If in doubt, call after 4 p.m. day of event. *Sunset–12:30 a.m. or as long as the sky remains clear, Peach Mountain Observatory, North Territorial Rd. (about 1¼ miles west of Hudson Mills Metropark), Dexter. Free. 975–3248.*

19 Sunday

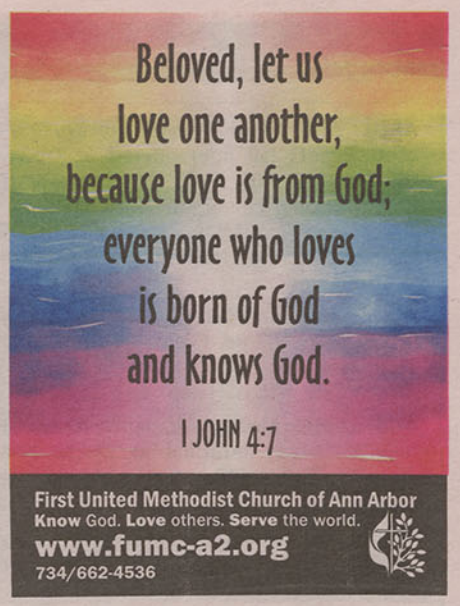
"Monster Ann Arbor Record & CD Collector's Show": Rerun Records. *See review, p. 000.* Popular fair with more than 50 dealers from a half dozen states selling rare and collectible used records and CDs, as well as hard-to-find new releases. Includes every popular music genre, along with rock music books, rock videos, posters, and assorted popular culture memorabilia. Food and beverages for sale. Patrons may bring in a small number of records to sell. *10 a.m.–4 p.m., Weber's Inn, 3050 Jackson Rd. $3 admission. For information or to reserve a dealer table, call Rod Branham 604–2540.*

★**"The Buzz in Pollinator Gardening."** Advanced master gardener Carol Brodbeck presents on common pollinators and ways to garden to provide for their needs. *10 a.m., Zion Lutheran Church, 1501 W. Liberty. Free. 434–3795.*

★**"Earth Day 50th Anniversary": Megiddo Peace Project.** *Apr. 19, 22, & 26.* Earth Day celebration with speakers TBA, live music, games, dancing, food, & a kids play area. On *Apr. 22,* performances by dancers and artists TBA and speeches on environment-related topics such as climate change and the Green New Deal. On *Apr. 26,* Participants are encouraged to create an action plan for their personal environment-related goals. *11 a.m.–evening, Ann Arbor Community Commons, Fifth Ave. at Library Ln. Free. 657–8083.*

Sunday Artisan Market. *Every Sun starting Apr. 19 (date tentative).* Juried market of local handmade arts and crafts. On Apr. 5 only, **live music** by vibraphone artist John Davis. On Apr. 26, a **drawing** to win work by one of the exhibiting artists. *11 a.m.–4 p.m., Farmers Market, Kerrytown. Free admission. 913–9622.*

★**Earth Day Festival: Leslie Science & Nature Center/City of Ann Arbor.** Family-oriented zero-waste festival with LSNC live animals, hands-on craft activities, guided hikes, green building & commuting displays, a **children's storytime** (12:30–1 p.m.) with readings by AAPS environmental educator Coert Ambrosino, a **folk-song sing-along** (1:15–2 p.m)



kids calendar (age 12 & under)

AADL: Ann Arbor District Library 327–4200. Events (all free) offered at **Downtown** (343 S. Fifth Ave.), **Westgate** (Westgate shopping center), **Traverwood** (3333 Traverwood Dr.), **Malletts Creek** (3090 E. Eisenhower), and **Pittsfield** (2359 Oak Valley) branches.

HSHV: Humane Society of Huron Valley, 3100 Cherry Hill Rd. Events also hosted at **Tiny Lions** Lounge & Adoption Center (5245 Jackson, ste. A1). HSHV.org, 661–3575.

Hudson Mills Metropark, park activity center, 8801 North Territorial Rd., Dexter. Various prices, plus $10 vehicle entrance fee. 426–8211.

UMMA, 525 S. State. Free events; preregistration required at UMMA.umich.edu/events. 764–0395.

WCPARC: Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission. Free events, preregistration required at ParksOnline.eWashtenaw.org. 971–6337.

Every Mon.–Fri (various times): **Preschool Storytimes: AADL.** Half hour program of stories and songs for ages 2–5 (with caregiver). Siblings welcome. Mon. 11 a.m. **(Westgate & Malletts Creek)**; Tues. 10 a.m. **(Downtown)** & 11 a.m. **(Traverwood)**; Wed. 10 a.m. **(Malletts Creek)**, 11 a.m. **(Downtown)**, 1 p.m. **(Westgate)**, & 6 p.m. **(Traverwood)**; Thurs. 10 a.m. **(Traverwood)** & 7 p.m. **(Pittsfield)**; Fri. 10 a.m. **(Westgate & Pittsfield)**.

Every Mon.–Fri. (various times): **Baby Playgroups: AADL.** Hour-long program for ages 24 months & under (with caregiver) of 15 minutes of stories, rhymes, and songs followed by open play. No older siblings, please. Mon. 10:30 a.m. **(Downtown)**; Tues. 10 a.m. **(Malletts Creek)**; Wed. 11 a.m. **(Pittsfield)**; Thurs. 2 p.m. **(Westgate)** & 6:30 p.m. **(Malletts Creek)**; Fri. 10:30 a.m. **(Traverwood)**.

Every Wed. (11 a.m.): **Storytime: Nicola's Books.** An experienced storyteller reads picture books and leads related activities & crafts. Nicola's, Westgate. Free. 662–0600.

Every Thurs. (10:30 a.m.): **"Little Paws Story Time": HSHV.** Stories, crafts, finger plays, a tour of the adoptable cat area, and a dog meet and greet. For kids ages 2–5, accompanied by an adult. *$5 per child (babies under age 1, free).*

Apr. 4 (noon & 8:45 p.m.): **Easter Egg Hunts: Hudson Mills Metropark Interpretative Nature Programs.** *Noon:* **Easter Egg Scramble.** Over 4,000 candy- and toy-filled eggs for kids ages 10 & under. Also, face painting, a visit from Farmer John with his farm animals for kids to pet, and a chance to visit with the Easter Bunny. Fields and scramble times are divided into age groups, so early arrival is recommended. $5 per kid. *8:45 p.m.:* **"Flashlight Egg Hunt."** For kids ages 8–12 who want an extra challenge. Collection bags and glow-in-the-dark bracelets provided; bring your own flashlight. *$6, preregistration required by Apr. 3.*

Apr. 4 (3 p.m.): **"Strum & Drum": Oz's Music Environment.** Families invited to get on stage to sing and make music on a variety of instruments. Also, at 4 p.m. a free **Kids Open Stage.** *Oz's, 1920 Packard. $20 per family (free for first timers). 662–8283.*

Apr. 5, 8, 15, 22, & 29 (10–11 a.m.): **"Nature Storytime": Leslie Science & Nature Center.** Ages 2–5 (with caregiver) invited for a program of stories and nature-based activities on different themes. *Apr. 5 & 8:* **"Eggstravagent Eggs."** *Apr. 15:* **"Sensing Spring."** *Apr. 22:* **"Earth Day."** *Apr. 29:* **"Garden Playtime."** *Furstenberg Nature Area, 2626 Fuller. $5 per kid (members, $4; adults & siblings age 24 months & under, free); preregistration required. 997–1553.*

Every Tues. (10–11 a.m.): **"Tummy Times": AADL Westgate.** New and expecting parents invited to discuss new baby experiences. Babies welcome.

Every Tues. (10–10:45 a.m.): **"Tiny Tails Storytime": HSHV.** Songs, stories, finger plays, and interaction with adoptable cats. For kids ages 2–5 (with caregiver). At ***Tiny Lions****. $5 per child (babies under age 1, free).*

Apr. 8 (10:30–11:15 a.m.): **"Sensation Stations": AADL Traverwood.** Ages 8 months–2 years (with caregiver) invited to scoop, pour, squeeze, and shake a variety of materials.

Apr. 9 & 23 (10–10:40 a.m.): **"Yoga for Kids!": AADL Westgate.** A Super Fun Yoga Time (Pinckney) instructor leads grades preK–2 in some introductory poses.

Apr. 11 & 18 (10:30–11:30 a.m.): **"Chinese Storytime": AADL.** An AADL storyteller tells stories and sings songs in Mandarin and leads a Chinese-themed craft. For babies & preK (siblings welcome). *Note:* AADL Westgate (Apr. 11); Downtown Youth Story Corner (Apr. 18).

Apr.11 (7:30 p.m.): **"Family Mew-Vie Night": Tiny Lions.** Screening of the 2006 coming-of-age film *Hoot*. Also, snuggles with adoptable cats. Popcorn, juice, and water. Kids must be accompanied by an adult (at least 1 for every 3 kids). Bring pillows, sleeping bags, and blankets, if you wish. This event usually sells out. *$10 in advance at tinylions.org/mewvienights. 661–3530.*

Apr. 17 (5–9 p.m.): **"Pets & Pajamas Movie Night": HSHV.** Kids ages 5–11 invited to watch 2008 animated adventure film *Kung Fu Panda*. Also, crafts and a chance to interact with adoptable pets. Pizza dinner. Wear pajamas and bring a sleeping bag and pillow. *$35 ($15 for each additional sibling). Preregistration required at hshv.org.*

Apr. 18 (10–10:45 p.m.): **"Japanese Storytime": AADL Malletts Creek.** Local music teacher Momo Kajiwara tells stories and sings songs in Japanese. For babies & kids preK (siblings welcome).

Apr. 18 (10–11 a.m.): **"Mo Willems Celebration": AADL Westgate.** AADL storytellers present a program of stories by this popular children's writer & related crafts to grades preK–3.

Apr. 18 (10:30–11:30 a.m.)**: "Nature Explorers: Metamorphosis": WCPARC.** Naturalist Elle Bogle leads kids ages 5 & 6 on a hike to observe seasonal changes in nature. *Meet at Scio Woods Preserve, 4000 Scio Church Rd.*

Apr. 19 (1 p.m.): **"Dancing Babies": AADL Malletts Creek.** First Steps Washtenaw instructor Monica Higman leads all age 5 & under (with caregiver) in a program of music and movement.

Apr. 19 (1–2 p.m.): **"Drawing for Kids": AADL Downtown Multipurpose Rm.** Ann Arbor Art Center instructors lead a directed drawing activity for grades 1–5. This week's theme is **"Russian Nesting Dolls."**

Apr. 19 (1–3 p.m.): **"El Día de Los Niños y Libros": AADL Downtown Lobby.** Family-oriented celebration of the traditional Latin American Children's Day with music, dancing, traditional treats, crafts, and more.

Apr. 19 (2–4 p.m.): **Family Dance: Pittsfield Union Grange.** Callers lead contras and square dances to live music. For kids with an adult. *Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. $12 per family. 274–0773.*

Apr. 20 (10:30–11 a.m.): **"Preschool ArtStart": AADL Traverwood.** Craft activity TBA for ages 2–5 (with caregiver).

Apr. 20 (2–3 p.m.): **"Kinetic Sandbox": AADL Downtown Secret Lab.** Grades K–5 invited to play with easy-to-mold kinetic sand.

Apr. 20 (6–7 p.m.): **Two of a Kind: AADL Downtown 4th Fl. meeting rm.** This nationally-known Philadelphia-based children's music duo, composed of husband-and-wife team David and Jenny Heitler-Klevans, present an interactive program that mixes songs, puppets, movement, and stories for grades preK–5.

Apr. 23 (10–11 a.m.): **"Preschool Hike: The Earth Wakes Up": WCPARC.** Naturalist-led hike & ribbon wand crafting session. For ages 2–4 (with caregiver). *Meet at the County Farm Park Pollinator Garden.*

Apr. 25 (10–11 a.m.): **"Arabic Storytime": AADL Malletts Creek.** Local Arabic teacher and storyteller Heba Abdelaal tells stories and sings songs in Arabic. For babies & kids preK (siblings welcome).

Apr. 25 (10–11 a.m.): **Hudson Mills Metropark Young Outdoor Explorers.** Ages 3–6 invited to move & croak like a frog, then listen & look for them. Led by Naturalist Kim Sherwin. *$5.*

Apr. 25 (10:30 a.m.–noon): **"Junior Naturalist: Archery": WCPARC.** Naturalist Kelsey Dehring teaches how to shoot a bow. For beginners ages 7–12. *Staebler Farm County Park, 7734 Plymouth Rd.*

Apr. 25 (11 a.m. & 2 p.m.): **"Family Art Studio: Investigations with Watercolor": UMMA.** U-M art students Emily Considine and Bre Boersma lead a walk through the UMMA Apse to look at paintings. Followed by watercolor painting. For kids age 6 & up, accompanied by an adult.

Apr. 25 (11:15 a.m.–noon): **"Storytime at the Museum": UMMA.** A U-M student docent reads a story related to art on display. Followed by a short craft activity. For kids ages 3–6 accompanied by a parent. Siblings welcome.

Apr. 26 (3–4 p.m.): **"Korean Storytime": AADL Traverwood.** Korean-language songs, stories, and crafts. For babies & kids preK (siblings welcome).

Apr. 26 (3–4 p.m.): **"Spanish Storytime": AADL Downtown Youth Story Corner.** Local Spanish teacher Consuelo Digón tells stories and sings songs in Spanish. For babies & kids preK (siblings welcome).

★ *Denotes a free event*

led by Lori Fithian & Jean Chorazyczewski and with lyrics and chords projected for singers and strummers, **environmental songs and stories** (2:45–3:45 p.m.) by local singer-songwriter Joe Reilly, and more. Also, exhibits by more than 40 local environmental, nonprofit, and governmental organizations, and educational presentations on a variety of sustainability topics. Also, all invited to come dressed as their favorite animal to join an **"All Species Parade"** (2:15 p.m.). Face painting. Ray's Red Hots and Hero or Villain food trucks. Limited parking; all encouraged to carpool, bus, bike, or walk to the festival. *Noon–4 p.m., Gallup Park, 3000 Fuller Rd. Free. 794–6627.*

"Brewing Methods": Zingerman's Coffee Company. Zingerman's Coffee staff demonstrate and discuss 6–8 different ways to brew coffee, from filter drip to syphon pot. *Noon–2 p.m., Zingerman's Coffee Company, 3723 Plaza Dr. $30, preregistration required. 929–6060.*

★**"Fabric Dyeing": Ann Arbor District Library.** Modati Studios representatives show basic dying techniques. Materials provided, or bring fabric to dye. *1–4 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4200.*

★**"Pinhole Camera Building and Photo Developing": Ann Arbor District Library.** An AADL librarian discusses the science of photography and offers a hands-on intro to making and using a pinhole camera. *1–4 p.m., AADL Downtown 4th fl. meeting rm., 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4200.*

★**"Chesstastic!": Ann Arbor District Library.** All invited to play chess. Sets provided. *1–4 p.m., AADL Traverwood, 3333 Traverwood Dr. Free. 327–4200.*

"The Great American Trailer Park Musical": Dexter Community Players. See 17 Friday. 1:30 p.m.

"Paint Night": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 2 Thursday. 2 p.m.

Waterloo Natural History Association. *Apr. 19 & 26.* All-ages nature themed activities. *Apr. 19 (2–3 p.m.):* **"Wildlife and Their Ways."** Naturalist Endeavors (Columbiaville) owner Randy Baker shows a variety of animals and discusses what they need for survival. *Apr. 26 (2–3:30 p.m.):* **"Foraging for Food."** Will Forage for Food founder Rachel Mifsud leads a walk to look for edible and medicinal plants and mushrooms. *Various times, Eddy Discovery Center, 17030 Bush Rd., Chelsea. $2 (families, $5), preregistration required (space limited). $11 recreation passport required ($16 if purchased at the gate). 475–3170.*

★**"Drawing for Adults": Ann Arbor District Library.** *Apr. 19 & 29.* Ann Arbor Art Center instructors lead a different directed drawing activity. *Apr. 19 (3–5:30 p.m.):* **"Abstract Expressionism."** *Apr. 29 (6:30–8 p.m.):* **"Texture in Art."** *Various times, AADL Downtown multipurpose rm., 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4200.*

★**"Apples in the Midwestern Imagination": Culinary Historians/ Ann Arbor District Library.** Bowling Green State University American culture studies professor Lucy M. Long, the Center for Food and Culture (OH) founder-director, discusses her book exploring how apples have contributed to the collective memory that characterizes this region. Signing. *3–5 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek, 3090 E Eisenhower. Free. 327–4200.*

Pilar's Stands with Corner Health Center. Live Music by **Spirits Rising,** the duo of singer-songwriters Joe Reilly & Alice Sun that is known for traditional indigenous music with notes of jazz, folk, blues, hip-hop, and rock. Also, music spun by Detroit-based **DJ Ladylike**, a piñata for kids, silent auction, and more. Dinner from Pilar's Tamales served from 5–6 p.m. Fundraiser for Corner Health Center, a local organization that provides affordable health services to kids & teens. *4–7 p.m., Barnes Market Hall, 16 S. Washington, Ypsilanti. Tickets $45 (students, $30; kids 11 & under, $12) in advance only at PilarsFoundation.org & at Pilar's Tamales, 2261 W. Liberty. 829–9978.*

"Ann Arbor (Mostly) Acoustic Jam." Musicians of all ability levels and ages invited to workshop new songs with acoustic instruments. Led by veteran local musicians Bill Connors and Phil McMillion. Also, on Apr. 26 only, an **open mic** (U-M Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd.) for solo, duo, and trio performers, followed by jamming. *7–9 p.m., Great Oak Cohousing common area, 500 Little Lake Dr. $5 (spectators, free); preregistration required at MeetUp.com. 973–7791.*

"A Reassessment of Life on this Planet": Frederick Glaysher. See 5 Sunday. 7 p.m.

20 Monday

★**Monday Morning Mediation: Mindful City Ann Arbor Mindfulness Week.** Guided secular mindfulness meditation. Beginners welcome. *7:30 a.m., Church of the Good Shepherd, 2145 Independence Blvd. Free. MindfulCityAnnArbor.com*

★**"Being in Tune at The Ark": Mindful City Ann Arbor Mindfulness Week.** *Apr. 20 & 22.* Guided secular mindfulness meditation. Beginners welcome. *Noon, The Ark, 316 S. Main. Free. MindfulCityAnnArbor.com*

★**Monthly Meeting: Embroiderers' Guild of America.** Stitchers of all abilities and interests are invited to work on their own stitching projects, socialize, and learn about guild activities. Preceded at 6:45 p.m. by socializing. *7 p.m., West Side United Methodist Church, 900 S. 7th St. Free to visitors ($52 annual dues). 994–4385.*

★**"Dark Skies: Light Pollution, the Night Sky, and the Environment": Ann Arbor District Library.** Pioneer High School students and U-M faculty TBA demonstrate the causes of light pollution, its impact on the urban environment, and what individuals can do to minimize its effects. Also, a night sky-related kid-friendly interactive art project. *7–8 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek, 3090 E Eisenhower. Free. 327–4200.*

★**Katie Hammond: Ann Arbor Women Artists.** This painter, an Ann Arbor native, discusses her work. *7 p.m., AAWA Headquarters, 4844 Jackson, ste. 100. Free. AnnArborWomenArtists@gmail.com*

Ann Arbor Stamp Club. All invited to sell and trade U.S. and foreign stamps & other collector supplies. *7:30 p.m., Salvation Army, 100 Arbana (park & enter at rear of bldg.). Free admission. 761–5859.*

21 Tuesday

★**"Button Lab & Earth Day Postcard Project": Ann Arbor District Library.** All invited to make button pins. Materials provided or bring your own image (1.25–2.25 inches) to use. Also, make additions to postcards that will be part of an LSA Great Lakes–themed installation. *6–7 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4200.*

★**"Miner Street Sit:" Mindful City Ann Arbor Mindfulness Week.** Guided secular mindfulness meditation. Beginners welcome. *6 p.m., 614 Miner St. Free. MindfulCityAnnArbor.com*

★**"Writing Interactive Fiction with Code": Ann Arbor District Library.** All invited to learn how to write a digital "Choose Your Own Adventure" story using a simple coding language. You can then play through the stories you and others have written. *6:30–8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown Training Center, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4200.*

★**"Experts in Arthritis": Ann Arbor District Library.** U.S. Bone & Joint initiative physician

galleries

New exhibits this month:

Ann Arbor Art Center, 117 W. Liberty. *Art Now: Photography* (Apr. 3–May 2). Juried exhibit with a focus on traditional photography techniques and mixed-media pieces. Reception Apr. 10, 6–8 p.m. Mon.–Fri. 10 a.m.–7 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.–6 p.m. 994–8004.

Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. *Dick & Sue Rigterink* (Apr. 1–May 1). Nature photography by these Ann Arbor artists, featuring plants and animals they've encountered in wildlife refuges, state parks, and their own backyard. Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–5 p.m. 662–3279.

Ann Arbor District Library, 343 S. Fifth Ave. *2020 Ann Arbor Public Schools Student Showcase* (Apr. 17–May 28, 3rd fl. exhibit space, lower level display cases, multipurpose rm., Youth Wall). 2- and 3-D works in various mediums by students in grades preK–12. Reception Apr. 23, 6–7 p.m. Mon. 10 a.m.–9 p.m., Tues.–Fri. 9 a.m.–9 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun. noon–6 p.m. 327–4555.

Ann Arbor District Library, 343 S. Fifth Ave. *Auxon by Douglas Bosley* (Apr. 28–Jun. 7, 2nd fl. exhibit space). Futuristic scenes that depict a world ruled by colonies of robots, all etched on copper or steel plates or drawn on paper using a sharpened silver wire as a writing utensil. Mon. 10 a.m.–9 p.m., Tues.–Fri. 9 a.m.–9 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun. noon–6 p.m. 327–4555.

U-M Hatcher Graduate Library, Audubon Room (enter from the Diag). *Open the Prison Doors: Highlights from the Joseph A. Labadie Collection* (Apr. 21–Jun. 28). Exhibit of pamphlets, posters, flyers, leaflets, letters, newsletters, and buttons, all related to the prison abolition movement. For hours, see lib.umich.edu/hatcher-graduate-library. 936-2314.

Soniya Hanif discusses how to manage arthritis. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown 4th fl. meeting rm., 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4200.*

★**"The Science of Climate Change": Ann Arbor District Library.** Washtenaw Climate Reality member Kent Kasper and City of Ann Arbor sustainability specialist Galen Hardy discuss the impact of global warming, local efforts to minimize its effect, and how the community can support the city's A2ZERO carbon neutrality initiative. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Westgate. Free. 327–4200.*

★**"Sensibilia: Explorations in Arabic Poetry": Ann Arbor District Library.** U-M-Dearborn Arabic language, culture, and communications professor **Wessam Elmeligi,** U-M community outreach coordinator **Rima Hassouneh,** U-M anthropology professor **Yasmin Moll,** Egyptian American writer **Hadil Ghoneim,** and local flavor & fragrance expert **Michelle Krell Kydd** read poems in both English & Arabic as participants are presented with different scents, tastes, textures, and sounds in this multisensory experience. *6:30–8:45 p.m., AADL Downtown multipurpose rm., 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4200.*

★**"Drummunity!"** Local drummer & drum teacher Lori Fithian leads a drum circle. Instruments provided, or bring your own. Kids welcome. Preceded at 6:45 p.m. by a brief drum lesson. *7–9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room, 114 S. Main. Free. 426–7818.*

★**Jeni McFarland: Nicola's Books.** This Michigan fiction writer reads from ***The House of Deep Water,*** her brand-new debut novel about three women who return to a fictional Michigan hometown and must confront the family, love affairs, and memories they had left behind. *7 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate. Free. 662–0600.*

★**Rebecca Dinerstein Knight: Literati Bookstore.** This New Hampshire–based author reads from ***Hex***, her brand-new novel about a group of university scientists tangled in a web of illicit relationships, grudges, and obsessions. Followed by a conversation with U-M writing professor Julie Buntin. Signing. *7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585–5567.*

★**Polka Jam Session.** All accordion players and other musicians invited to play polkas, waltzes, and other ethnic and old-time music. *7–9 p.m., American Legion Post 268, 44 Wabash St., Milan. Free. 529–3903.*

★**"Sunset Meditation": Mindful City Ann Arbor Mindfulness Week.** Outdoors, nature-based meditation, in celebration of Earth Day. Beginners welcome. *8 p.m., Hunt Park, 1035 Daniel St. Free; email Anique@GroveEmotionalHealth.com to preregister. MindfulCityAnnArbor.com*

22 Wednesday

"A Nation of Settlers: American Colonization of the Old Northwest": Ann Arbor City Club Lunch and Learn. Talk by U-M history professor Michael Witgen. Lunch. *11:30 a.m.–1 p.m., City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. $30 (members, $25), preregistration required by Apr. 17. 662–3279, ext. 1, AnnArborCityClub.org*

★**"Mindfulness in the Museum": UMMA.** *Apr. 22 & 25.* Docent Laura Seligman helps participants engage personally with one work of art for an extended period of time, followed by a reflection on the experience. *Noon (Wed.) & 3 p.m. (Sat.), UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 764–0395.*

"Paint Night": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 2 Thursday. 3 p.m.

★**Sustainability Public Forum: Pittsfield Township.** Speakers TBA discuss the work the township has done in the past decade to promote socio-economic & environmental sustainability. Also, discussion about new initiatives; input welcome. *6–8 p.m., Morris Hall, 6201 W. Michigan Ave. Free. 822–3135.*

★**Literati Bookstore Poetry Book Club.** All invited to join a discussion of the anthology ***Firsts: 100 Years of Yale Younger Poets***. *7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585–5567.*

★**"An Evening of Poetry and Written Word": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room.** Reading by WSU creative writing professor **Donovan Hohn,** author of the 2012 nonfiction book *Moby-Duck: The True Story of 28,800 Bath Toys Lost at Sea.* Followed by a poetry and short fiction open mic. *7–8:45 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665–2757.*

Paul Keller Orchestra: Ann Arbor District Library. This award-winning local 15-piece big band led by bassist Keller presents an eclectic jazz program. With vocalist-clarinetist Sarah D'Angelo. *7–8 p.m., AADL Downtown lobby, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4200.*

★**History of Science Reading Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers.** All invited to discuss Deborah Cadbury's 2007 book ***Space Race: The Epic Battle Between America and the Soviet Union for Dominion of Space.*** *7:30–9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 669–0451.*

Salem Area Historical Society. Saline historian Susan Nenadic discusses women's education in the 19th century. The program begins with a business meeting. *7:30 p.m., South Salem Stone School, 7991 N. Territorial. $2 (members, free). (248) 486–0669.*

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 8 Wednesday. 7:30 p.m.

★**"Sunset Mindfulness Hike": Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission.** Naturalist Shawn Severance and Mindful City Ann Arbor founder Julie Woodward lead a slow, contemplative hike around the pond and wetlands. *7:30–9 p.m., Scio Woods Preserve, 4000 Scio Church Rd. Free. 971–6337.*

23 Thursday

★**Holocaust Survivor: Jewish Community Center.** Video showing of Polish American Sophie Tajch Klisman's discussion of her experi-

A LOCAL LOOK – 100 Years of the 19th Amendment

500 N. Main St, Ann Arbor • OPEN 12-4 PM Saturdays & Sundays
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Join us in worship.

MAUNDY THURSDAY
Worship with Communion and Stripping of the Altar *noon and 7pm*

GOOD FRIDAY
Tenebrae Service *noon and 7pm*

EASTER VIGIL
Saturday Evening *7pm*

EASTER SUNDAY
April 12, 2020
Worship with Holy Communion
8am, 9am, and 11:11am

Lenten Services on Wednesdays
noon and 7pm

Please refer to the Zion website for updates regarding Easter services.

Zion Lutheran CHURCH

1501 W. Liberty
Ann Arbor
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www.zlc-aa.org

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- **Pizza Party:** March 28, 5:30pm at the Renners: 797 Sciomeadows Dr.
- **Palm Sunday:** April 5, 10:00am
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WCC-1087835_1219

★ *Denotes a free event*

ence during the Holocaust. Followed by a brief Q&A with Tajch Klisman and her daughter, Lori Ellis. *Noon, JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. Free. 395–4223.*

★**Classical Guitar Concert: First Baptist Church Coffee Break Concert Series.** Cincinnati-born award-winning classical composer-guitarist **Jeremy Collins** plays a program featuring Spanish composer Francisco Tárrega's "Capricho árabe," Renaissance composer Alonso Mudarra's "Fantasia X," Brazilian composer Heitor Villa-Lobos's Prelude no. 1, Spanish composer Fernando Sor's *Variations on a Theme of Mozart,* and more. Refreshments. *12:15 p.m., 517 E. Washington. Free. 663–9376.*

★**"Movement + Meditation": Mindful City Ann Arbor Mindfulness Week.** Guided mindfulness practice, beginning with movement-based exercises and concluding with a brief seated meditation. Beginners welcome. *12:15 p.m.–12:45 p.m., Grove Emotional Health Collaborative, 214 S Main St., ste 206. Free; email Anique@GroveEmotionalHealth.com to preregister. MindfulCityAnnArbor.com*

★**Nature Walk: Ann Arbor District Library.** A city naturalist leads a hike through **Bird Hills Nature Area** to learn about plants and animals. Wear comfortable shoes & clothes fit for the weather. *6–7:30 p.m., meet at park entrance (west of Huron River Dr.). Free. 327–4200.*

★**"Vector Lab": Ann Arbor District Library.** All invited to learn the basics of Inkscape vector graphics software and make custom 2-D & 3-D shapes. *6:30–8 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4200.*

★**Michigan Quarterly Review Launch Party: Literati Bookstore.** Release of the new water-themed issue of this U-M literary magazine. Reading by contributors, including essayist Donovan Hohn, U-M geophysics professor emeritus Henry Pollack, Nigerian-American author Ayokunle Falomo, Detroit journalist Anna Clark, & Michigan poet Sarah Carson. Signing. *7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585–5567.*

Sheila Landis & Rick Matle: Jewish Community Center Music at the J. A 7-time winner of the Detroit Music Award for Best Jazz Vocalist, Landis is joined by guitarist Matle for a program of music by Jewish composers, including Rodgers & Hammerstein, Irving Berlin, Gershwin, & others. *7 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. $12 (members, $10). 395–4223.*

★**Open Meditation: Mindful City Ann Arbor Mindfulness Week.** Guided secular mindfulness meditation. Beginners welcome. *7:30 p.m., Lotus Center, 2711 Carpenter. Free. MindfulCityAnnArbor.com*

Chineke! Orchestra: University Musical Society. Kevin John Edusei conducts this British ensemble of black & ethnic minority musicians, founded in 2015 by double bassist Chi-chi Nwanoku. They're joined by former member Sheku Kanneh-Mason, an internationally acclaimed 20-year-old cellist. Program: Coleridge-Taylor's Ballade for Orchestra in A minor, Haydn's Cello Concerto no. 1 in C major, Fauré's *Élégie,* and Brahms Symphony no. 2 in D major. *7:30 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets $17–$66 (students, $12–$20) in advance at Tickets.UMS.org, the Michigan League, by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764–2538.*

Matt McClowry: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *Apr. 23–25.* This Dearborn native is known for his self-deprecating autobiographical observational humor made piquant by an undercurrent of Jobian bewilderment. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. *7:30 p.m. (Thurs.–Sat.) & 10 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 212 S. Fourth Ave. $9 (Thurs.) & $12 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance at etix.com before 5 p.m. the night of the show; $11 (Thurs.) & $14 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

"Paint Night": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 2 Thursday. 8 p.m.

24 Friday

★**"Mindful Eating Lunch": Mindful City Ann Arbor Mindfulness Week.** Grove Emotional Health Collaborative mindfulness & meditation teacher Barbara Newell leads this exercise, in which participants will have lunch together and apply mindfulness practices, taught by Newell, to the act of eating a meal. *11:30 a.m., Shalimar, 307 S. Main. Free; buy your own lunch. Email Barbara@GroveEmotionalHealth.com to preregister. MindfulCityAnnArbor.com*

★**"Board Game Night": Ann Arbor District Library.** All invited to play board games, including Oregon Trail, Ticket to Ride, Yeti in My Spaghetti, Dominion, Sushi Go, Stratego, Grand Austria Hotel, Space Team, & more. Bring your own game, if you wish. *5:30–8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4200.*

"Tastefest 2020": Michigan Ability Partners Fundraiser. Auction of vacation rentals and other items TBA. Michigan craft beer and food from local restaurants included with admission. Proceeds go to supporting veterans, disabled people, and others in need. *6 p.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Building, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Tickets $75 in advance only at MapAgency.org. 975–6880.*

★**Tariq Luthun: Literati Bookstore.** This Detroit-based Palestinian American poet reads from *How the Water Holds Me,* his brand-new collection about diaspora, displacement, mortality, responsibility, and masculinity. Signing. *7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585–5567.*

Spring Gala: Educational Foundation of Dexter. Live and silent auctions and raffles. Also, a strolling dinner, desserts, and an open bar. Proceeds benefit Dexter schools. *7 p.m., Weber's Inn, 3050 Jackson Rd. Tickets $75 in advance only at efDexter.org. info@efDexter.org.*

★**Spring Concert: Women's Chamber Chorus.** David Perample directs this independent 30-member local women's chorus in an eclectic program that includes Broadway favorites, songs of love, ballads, and upbeat contemporary tunes. Piano accompanist is Josh Marzan. *7:30 p.m., First Presbyterian Church of Ann Arbor, 1432 Washtenaw. Free, donations accepted. 665–9271.*

Nessa: Webster UCC Music Series. Jazz-Celtic fusion with elements of pop, folk, and chamber music by this local band led by singer-flutist Kelly McDermott. With bassist and didgeridoo player Rob Crozier, guitarist Dan Palmer, keyboardist Brian Brill, drummer Rick Beamon, and percussionist Mike List. *7:30 p.m., 5484 Webster Church Rd., Dexter. Tickets $15 cash/check at the door only. 426–5115.*

Matt McClowry: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 23 Thursday. 7:30 & 10 p.m.

"Paint Night": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 2 Thursday. 8 p.m.

John Ford Coley: Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). Veteran country-rock and country-pop singer best known as one half of the 70s duo England Dan and John Ford Coley. *8 p.m., FUMC Green Wood, 1001 Green Rd. Tickets $20 in advance at EventBrite.com and at the door. 665–8558.*

25 Saturday

40th Annual Classic Bicycle Show & Swap Meet. *Apr. 25 & 26.* Show, swap, and sale featuring more than 10,000 classic, vintage, and collectible bikes. Awards for numerous categories, including the best bike from each decade 1930–1970. More than 250 vendors with bicycle parts, accessories, and memorabilia from every era. Door prizes, including at least 4 new collector bikes. *8 a.m.–3 p.m., Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd., Saline. $5 (age 9 & under, free). (248) 642–6639.*

★**"WiFi and Mesh Networks": MacTechnics.** Talk by club VP of Education Fred Seitz, postponed from a previous meeting. Seitz also presents his "findings of the month", a collection of Mac news and insights drawn from various sources (9–11 a.m.). From 11 a.m.–1 p.m., talks by members TBA on their areas of expertise. Questions welcome. *9 a.m.–1 p.m., NEW Center, 1100 N. Main. Free. contact@MacTechnics.org.*

"Crafting with Grace Spring Show": New Grace Apostolic Temple. Juried arts & crafts show. Bake sale, giveaways, and food vendors. Door prizes. *10 a.m.–4 p.m., New Grace, 2898 Packard. $2 admission. CraftingWithGrace.com. 368–8897.*

Annual Dahlia Tuber Sale: Michigan Dahlia Association. Sale of dahlia tubers. Also, a video on growing and caring for dahlias. Informational handouts. *1–4 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free admission; metered parking. 647–7600.*

films

Burnout Society Film Club. facebook.com/8ballMovieNight. **Trivia** at intermission. FREE. 8 Ball Saloon (201 S. First St.), 7 p.m.–midnight.

***Apr. 14:* "Colum's Birthday Mystery Double Feature."** Celebrate the host's birthday with 2 cult classics TBA.

Fathom Events. 623–7469 (Quality 16), 973–8424 (Ann Arbor 20), 316–5500 (Emagine). Tickets $12.50–$16 (except as noted) in advance at FathomEvents.com/Events & at the door. Quality 16 (3686 Jackson), Ann Arbor 20 (4100 Carpenter), Emagine (1335 E. Michigan Ave., Saline), & Michigan Theater (603 E. Liberty), different times.

***Apr. 7, 9, & 11:* "Jesus."** Rebroadcast of the Sight & Sound Theatre original musical about the Gospels. *Note:* Quality 16, Emagine, & Ann Arbor 20 (Tues.); Ann Arbor 20 only (Thurs.); Emagine & Ann Arbor 20 only (Sat. Tues. & Thurs.) 6:30 p.m. and Sat. 12:55 p.m.

***Apr. 11 & 15:* "Tosca."** Live broadcast (Sat.) & rebroadcast (Wed.) of the Metropolitan Opera's production of David McVicar's evocative adaptation of Puccini's opera, a Roman political melodrama about a love triangle. Italian, supertitles. *Note:* Quality 16, Michigan, & Emagine (Sat.) and Quality 16 & Ann Arbor 20 only (Wed.) $24 (kids & seniors, $22). Sat. 12:55 p.m. and Wed. 1 & 6:30 p.m.

***Apr. 16:* "Robert the Bruce"** (Richard Gray, 2019). Historical drama about the renowned Scottish king. *Note:* Quality 16 & Ann Arbor 20 only. 7:30 p.m.

***Apr. 19:* "Jewels."** Live broadcast of the Bolshoi Ballet (London) production of Sergei Filin's adaptation of George Balanchine's 3-part abstract ballet. $18. *Note:* Quality 16, Emagine, & Ann Arbor 20 only. 12:55 p.m.

★**"The In Between": Ann Arbor District Library.** AADL staffers role play as inhabitants of the In Between, an alternate universe that's part of an AADL interactive puzzle-solving game that began on Apr. 10. Participants are encouraged to interview the staffers to figure out how to solve the game. *1–3 p.m. AADL Downtown lobby, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4200.*

★**"On The Spot Queen Rearing": Ann Arbor Backyard Beekeepers.** Beekeeper Mel Disselkoen discusses this method of raising a queen bee. Q&A. *1:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free; metered parking. A2B2club@gmail.com*

★**"12th Annual Midwest Literary Walk": Chelsea District Library.** Readings by 3 writers at different Chelsea locations. The lineup includes celebrated young adult writer **Laurie Halse Anderson** (1 p.m., 128 Park St.), Indiana University creative writing professor & poet **Ross Gay** (2:30 p.m., 121 E. Middle St.), and acclaimed Washington, D.C.–based Iranian memoirist and literary historian **Azar Nafisi** (4 p.m., 128 Park St.). *1–5 p.m., various downtown locations, Chelsea. Free. MidwestLiteraryWalk.org*

★**"Saturday Sampler": U-M Kelsey Museum of Archaeology.** Docent-led themed tour of the museum's **Stamp Seals, Cylinder Seals, and Cuneiform Tablets.** *2–3 p.m., Kelsey Museum, 434 S. State. Free. 764–9304.*

"Paint Night": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 2 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

★**Matthew Davis & Betsy Richards: UMMA Pop Up.** Performance by this Southeast Michigan duo, whose sound blends folk music from different parts of the world with American old-time and bluegrass. *3–4 p.m., UMMA. Free. 764–0395.*

"Lift Off: Wild Things": A2 Aviary. Aerial, dance, and circus acts by A2 Aviary students and instructors. Limited seating. *7 p.m. (doors open at 6:30 p.m.), A2 Aviary, 2875 Boardwalk, ste. A. Tickets $10 in advance at BrownPaperTickets.com & $15 (cash only) at the door. A2aviary.com*

Blacksmith Shop Concert: Riverfolk Music and Arts Organization. Joyous brass selections TBA by the **Working Class Tuba Quartet**, a local ensemble of trombonist George Thompson and tuba players Vincent Humphrey, William Pemberton, & Michigan Chamber Brass director Michael Grant. *7:30 p.m., Blacksmith Shop, 324 E. Main, Manchester. Tickets $20 in advance only at EventBrite.com. 223–6876.*

"Les Misérables": Pioneer High School Theatre Guild. *Apr. 25 & 26 and May 1–3.* Students perform Alain Boublil, Claude-Michel Schönberg, and Herbert Kretzmer's adaptation of Victor Hugo's sweeping epic of 19th century Parisian life, centered on a petty criminal who reinvents himself as a model citizen, becomes a town mayor, and befriends an unfortunate single mother. *7:30 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.) & 2 p.m. (Sun.), PHS Schreiber Auditorium, 601 W. Stadium. $15 (students, seniors age 65 & over, and PHS staff, $10) in advance at a2tix.com. 994–2120, PTGuild.org*

"Antigone": Huron High School Players. See 16 Thursday. 7:30 p.m.

Matt McClowry: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 23 Thursday. 7:30 & 10 p.m.

26 Sunday

11th Annual Ride for Recovery: Dawn Farm Fundraiser. Bike rides from 10k to 58 miles and 5k & 10k run-walks. Followed by lunch. *7 a.m.–2 p.m., Dawn Farm, 6633 Stony Creek Rd., Ypsilanti. $35 preregistration in advance at DawnFarmRideForRecovery.org (lunch only, $5). 485–8725.*

★**"New Creation: Green Faith Rising": First Presbyterian Church.** Theologian Grace Ji-Sun Kim discusses Christian doctrine relevant to climate change and what action & advocacy for climate justice might look like. *11 a.m., FPC, 1432 Washtenaw Ave. Free. 662–4466.*

★**"Building a Religious Value System in a Rapidly Evolving World": First United Methodist Church Conversations About Science and Religion.** All invited to join a discussion led by U-M radiology & biomedical engineering professors Brian Fowlkes & Paul Carson. With FUMC senior pastor Nancy Lynn. *11 a.m.–12:15 p.m., FUMC Calkins Hall, 120 S. State. Free. 662–4536.*

"Flyaway X": Bird Center of Washtenaw County. Fundraiser for this nonprofit which rehabs & releases recused birds, with a Wesley's Catering brunch buffet (vegan options) and the chance to meet a blue jay. Also, U-M Zoology Museum bird curator Ben Winger discusses bird collisions caused by artificial light. Silent auction. *11:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m., Chelsea Depot, 125 Jackson St., Chelsea. $60 in advance at BirdCenterWashtenaw.org; $65 at the door. Preregistration requested. BirdCenterA2@gmail.com*

"Tea 101": Zingerman's Coffee Company. Zingerman's staffers discuss and offer tastings of 6 types of tea. *Noon–2 p.m., Zingerman's Coffee Company, 3723 Plaza Dr. $30, preregistration required. 929–6060.*

★**"Passport 2 Pittsfield": Pittsfield Township.** Open houses at various township buildings, highlighted by family-friendly activities. For full schedule, see Pittsfield-MI.gov/p2p. *1–4 p.m., various locations. Free. 822–3134.*

★**"Preserving Your Personal Archives":** All invited to drop in for a one-on-one consultation with a U-M librarian on how to care for your electronic files, books, letters, photographs, scrapbooks, or other personal memorabilia. *1–5 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4200.*

★**"Digital News: Utilizing Online Newspapers in Your Genealogy Research": Genealogical Society of Washtenaw County.** Talk by Archives of Michigan senior archivist Kris Rzepczynski. Also, at 3:15 p.m., he discusses **"Perilous Assumptions: Revisiting Those First Finds."** *1:30 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Education Center Auditorium, 5305 Elliott Dr. Free. 483–2799.*

★**"Daisy Chain Bracelets": Ann Arbor District Library.** All invited to make a colorful bracelet using an easy beading technique. *2–3:30 p.m., AADL Westgate. Free. 327–4200.*

★**"Cullen Washington Jr.: The Public Square": UMMA.** Docent-led tour of this exhibit of large-scale, abstract collages that explore the importance of public spaces. *2 p.m., UMMA Forum, 525 S. State. Free. 764–0395.*

★**"Spring Wildflowers Along the Saline River": Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission.** Naturalist Faye Stoner leads a hike to look for wildflowers. Wear waterproof boots. *2–4 p.m. Draper-Houston Preserve, 578 Mooreville, Milan. Free. 971–6337.*

"Paint Night": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 2 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Antigone": Huron High School Players. See 16 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Les Misérables": Pioneer High School Theatre Guild. See 25 Saturday. 2 p.m.

"Meet the Cheese: Cheddar": Zingerman's Creamery. Staffers discuss curd, texture, & flavor of cheddars. Tastings. *3–4:30 p.m., Zingerman's Creamery, 3723 Plaza Dr. $15, preregistration required. 929–0500.*

★**LezRead Book Club.** All queer women invited to discuss ***Princess Princess Ever After***, Katie O'Neill's 2016 graphic novel about two princesses who run away together. *4–6 p.m., Jim Toy Community Center, 319 Braun Ct. Free. a2LezRead.tumblr.com*

Open Stage: Pointless Brewery & Theatre. All performers invited to showcase their talents. *7:30 p.m., Pointless, 3014 Packard. Pay what you can. Sign up for an 8-minute spot at PointlessBrew.com. (989) 455–4484.*

27 Monday

★**"Block Printing": Ann Arbor District Library.** All invited to carve a simple stamp to decorate blank paper. Materials provided. No experience necessary. *6:30–8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4200.*

★**"Mindfulness Meditation": Ann Arbor District Library.** Local massage therapist and meditation leader Amy Tarrant leads a series of guided meditations and breathing exercises. Bring a blanket or pillow, if you like. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Pittsfield, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. Free. 327–4200.*

★**"Sex and the Brain: What Difference Does It Make?": Ann Arbor District Library.** U-M psychology professor Jill Becker discusses her research on the differences between male and female brains and the impact they have on behavior & cognition. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown multipurpose rm., 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4200.*

★**Nicolas Mathieu: Literati Bookstore.** This acclaimed French fiction writer reads from *And Their Children After Them*, his newly translated 2018 coming-of-age novel about teenagers passing their summers in the east of France. Signing. *7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585–5567.*

★**"Folk Song Jam-Along."** All invited to join a family-oriented recreational sing-along of familiar folk, pop, rock, Broadway tunes, and more. Bring your instruments if you'd like to jam along as well. Led by Lori Fithian and Jean Chorazyczewski. *7–8:30 p.m., Ann Arbor District Library Malletts Creek, 3090 E. Eisenhower. Free. 426–7818.*

28 Tuesday

★**"Docent Recruitment": U-M Kelsey Museum of Archaeology.** Talk about becoming a volunteer docent at the Kelsey museum. Preregistration required at lsa.umich.edu/Kelsey. *1–2:30 p.m., Kelsey Museum, 434 S. State. Free. 764–9304.*

★**Play Reading Club: The Brass Tracks Ensemble.** All invited to join members of this local ensemble to read a part in Tennessee Williams' poetic psychological melodrama ***The Glass Menagerie.*** Listeners welcome. *6:30–9 p.m., location TBA; updates at facebook.com/TheBrassTacksEnsemble*

★**"Desserts by the Decade: The 1980s": Ann Arbor District Library.** Local historian Patti Smith discusses local 1980s history, and the Lakehouse Bakery (Chelsea) owner Keegan Rodgers shares popular 1980s recipes. Tastings. 7–8:30 p.m., AADL Pittsfield, *2359 Oak Valley Dr. Free. 327–4200.*

★**"A2 Modern": Ann Arbor District Library.** Alden B. Dow Home & Studio (Midland) director Craig McDonald discusses area architect Dow's work in Ann Arbor, all designed between 1932 & 1970. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown multipurpose rm., 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4200.*

★**"Oval": Literati Book Club.** All invited to discuss Elvia Wilk's novel about a couple encountering strange new technologies in near-future Berlin. *7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585–5567.*

★**Skazat! Poetry Series at Sweetwaters.** Reading by the widely published Detroit poet **Casey Rocheteau,** author of the 2016 collection *The Dozen* and winner of the inaugural Detroit Write A House residency in 2014. Preceded by an open mic. *7–8:30 p.m., Sweetwaters, 123 W. Washington. Free. 994–6663.*

29 Wednesday

"Paint Night": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 2 Thursday. 3 p.m.

★**"Taste and Tell: Anatomy of a Luxury Chocolate Bar": Ann Arbor District Library.** Local flavor and fragrance expert Michelle Krell Kydd, creator of the award-winning blog Glass Petal Smoke, explores the individual ingredients that go into Mirzam's Halwa dark chocolate bar, highlighted by saffron, rose, and date palms. Tasting. *6:30–8:45 p.m., AADL Downtown 4th fl. meeting rm., 343 S. Fifth Ave. 327–4200.*

★**Literati Bookstore Feminist Book Club.** All invited to discuss a book TBA at LiteratiBookstore.com. *7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585–5567.*

★**Ellen Stone: Bookbound.** This local poet reads from her brand-new collection *What Is in the Blood*, which features poetry about her childhood in the Appalachian Mountains and her relationship with her mother, who is bipolar. Also, students from Community High School's poetry club read their original poetry. Signing, refreshments. *7 p.m., Bookbound, Courtyard Shops. Free. 369–4345.*

"May It Please the Court?: ACLU Fundraiser. Longtime labor lawyer Nick Roumel, U-M law professors Mike Steinberg & David Moran, former attorney & local storyteller Patti F. Smith, and other performers TBA tell entertaining true legal stories. All proceeds go to the ACLU of Michigan. *7 p.m, Black Pearl, 302 S. Main. Tickets $40 in advance only at EventBrite.com. 222–0400.*

30 Thursday

★**"Breadboard Electric Piano": Ann Arbor District Library.** All invited to make an electric piano using simple computer circuitry. *6:30–8 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4200.*

★**Volunteer Vernal Pool Monitor Training: Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission.** Naturalist Elle Bogle teaches how to monitor the health of these meltwater ponds. Wear waterproof boots. *7–9 p.m., Miller-Smith Preserve, 8560 Dexter-Chelsea Rd., Dexter. Free, email BogleE@washtenaw.org to preregister. 971–6337.*

★**C Pam Zhang: Literati Bookstore.** This San Francisco–based Chinese American writer reads from ***How Much of These Hills Is Gold,*** her adventure novel set against the twilight of the American gold rush. Signing. *7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585–5567.*

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 8 Wednesday. 7:30 p.m.

"Paint Night": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 2 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Classifieds

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Miscellaneous

The **Classifieds deadline** for the May issue is April 10.

I SPY CONTEST

Can you identify the glimpse of Ann Arbor in the photo on p. 63 If you can, you could win a $25 check made out to any business advertising in this issue. One winner will be drawn from all correct entries received by noon, April 10. No phone entries, please. Send your answer to: I Spy, Ann Arbor Observer, 2390 Winewood, AA 48103. Fax: 769–3375; email: backpage@aaobserver.com (put I Spy in the subject line).

FAKE AD CONTEST

Can you find the fake ad in this issue of the Observer? If you can, you could win a $25 gift certificate to any business advertising in this issue! One winner will be drawn from all correct entries received by noon, April 10. No phone entries, please. Send your answer to: backpage@aaobserver.com or write to: 2390 Winewood, AA 48103.

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The **Classifieds deadline** for the May issue is April 10.

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Sincerely,

Patricia M. Garcia
Publisher

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3905 Preserve Dr., Dexter—Stunning, one-of-a-kind home on 1.5 ac with private up north feel, while still offering neighborhood setting, between Ann Arbor and Dexter. With 8,215 livable sqft, 5 bedrooms, 4 full bathrooms, 2 half bathrooms, this Contemporary Craftsman-style home features custom details throughout with an open floor plan, large windows allowing abundant natural light, picturesque views year round. Expansive 2-story Great Room with stone fireplace, floor-to-ceiling windows, open to gourmet kitchen with custom granite counters, oversized island, pantry, butler's pantry, formal dining room. Main level also features cozy study with fireplace, reading room, office nook off kitchen, large mudroom/laundry room, 2 half baths. Upstairs are 4 bedrooms, 3 full bathrooms, plus reading area, bonus room/studio space. Stately Master Suite features 2-sided fireplace, luxurious bath with soaking tub, steam shower and Juliet balcony, oversized walk-in closet, 2nd laundry room. Perfect for entertaining, home has finished walkout lower level with in-laws' suite, large living space with fireplace, 2nd kitchen, home theater, home gym, indoor sports court and sauna, plus outdoor space with outdoor kitchen, firepit, hot tub, cascading ponds, all overlooking the wooded yard. $1,495,000. MLS#327198.

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MARKET UPDATE
April 2020

These are challenging times for all of us. The spread of the Coronavirus is impacting our community and local real estate market on a daily-changing basis. The challenges are certain to grow before they begin to lessen. So far, our real estate marketing is moving forward. My listings are still selling and my buyers are still searching for quality homes. I stay committed to serving our communities' real estate needs through it all. If you have questions or concerns please call me, 734-476-7100.

SELLERS – The value of your home is at its highest level since 2007. Demand for your home is at the highest level since 2004. But this market is far from "easy". The issues of pricing, managing multiple offers, and successfully appraising the home with the buyer's lender are more complex than ever. It takes an experienced agent with an effective strategy to successfully sell your home and get it closed. Please call me to discuss your situation today. 734-476-7100.

BUYERS – Word on the street is that there are no quality homes to buy. Somehow I manage to lead the county in closed buyer sales year to date. I have been successful in finding the best homes available for most of my buyers (not all, sorry). The process of home selection, offer strategy, and financing are a challenge. You need an experienced agent in your corner to find the right house and successfully close. Call me today to start your search. 734-476-7100.

WOODLANDS OF GEDDES GLEN – Incredible 5-bedroom, 6 ½-bath custom-built home overlooking Radrick Farms Golf Course. This home was built to the highest standards. The setting is special with great outdoor living spaces. Interior highlights include gourmet kitchen with Wolf/Sub-Zero appliances, two-story great room, luxury master bedroom suite with sitting area, two walk-in closets, spa-like baths, and finished walkout basement! $1,795,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – SALINE SCHOOLS – This stately 4-bedroom, 4-bath, two ½-bath custom-built home is set on an incredible 7-acre parcel just minutes to Ann Arbor and all freeways. Highlights include manicured grounds with patio, covered bridge, inground pool, 60' x 100' pole barn, two-story great room with stone fireplace, incredible kitchen with professional appliances, luxury first floor master suite with spa like bath, and finished walkout basement with rec room, bar, exercise, and home theater. $1,395,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

ANN ARBOR HILLS – This custom-built 5-bedroom, 4 ½-bath colonial is a rare find in one of Ann Arbor's most sought after neighborhoods. Custom kitchen with professional grade appliances, open concept floor plan, family room with fireplace, all-hardwood flooring, dream master suite with vaulted ceilings and spa-like bath, great sized kids' bedrooms, and finished lower level with rec and exercise room, bedroom, and bath. $1,295,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – ANN ARBOR HILLS – This classic 4-bedroom, 3 ½-bath colonial rests on a gorgeous hilltop lot in a prime section of Ann Arbor Hills. You will love this setting with mature trees, large back yard, and patio. The interior is gorgeous! Highlights include all-hardwood floors, original trim, updated kitchen with painted maple cabinets and granite counters, living room with fireplace, sun room, den, master suite with remodeled master bath, 2nd bedroom suite, and finished basement. Angell Elementary. $1,150,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – SALINE SCHOOL – Incredible 5-bedroom, 3-bath, three ½-bath custom built home on a 2.6-acre pond frontage lot in one of the area's most prestigious locations. This home was an entry is the 2001 Showcase of Homes tour and features a Frank Lloyd Wright inspired architecture and only the finest materials. Highlights include imported stone exterior, all-hardwood floors on the main two floors, custom kitchen with granite and high-end appliances, luxury master suite with spa-like bath, and finished lower level. Saline Schools. $1,095,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NE ANN ARBOR – This 4-bedroom, 3 ½-bath Frank Lloyd Wright-inspired contemporary home is a pure masterpiece of design and materials. Estate setting with 8-acres of the most beautiful land you will find. Includes extensive landscaping with a flowing stream, stone patio, and pond. The home highlights include soaring ceilings, dramatic slate fireplace, stone flooring, gourmet kitchen, luxury master suite, and finished walkout lower level. $950,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – SALINE ESTATES – Incredible 6-bedroom, 4 ½-bath home in one of the area's most popular neighborhoods. This setting is incredible - just minutes from schools and shopping. The lot features mature trees, large deck, patio, fire pit, and gorgeous inground swimming pool. The home is gorgeous inside with two-story family room, open concept kitchen with granite and stainless steel appliances, luxury master suite with incredible walk-in closet and spa-like bath, and finished walkout basement with rec room, 2 bedrooms, and bath. $769,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

CENTENNIAL PARK – This 4-bedroom, 4-bath, two ½-bath former builder's model home is loaded with custom features in one of Saline school's most popular neighborhoods. This home rests on one of the largest lots in the neighborhood with extensive landscaping, paver patio, and huge backyard. The interior highlights include two-story family room, cherry kitchen, sunroom, private den, luxury first floor master suite, bonus room, and finished basement. $769,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – CENTENNIAL PARK – This incredible, custom-built 6-bedroom, 4 ½-bath colonial rests on a quiet lot deep within the neighborhood. You will love living in one of Saline Schools most popular neighborhoods with walking distance to Harvest Elementary and Saline High School. This home is gorgeous. Highlights include stunning kitchen with white painted maple cabinets and Wolf and Sub-Zero appliances, great room with built-ins, luxury master suite, and finished basement with tons of natural night. $749,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

HIGHPOINTE AT STONEBRIDGE – Incredible 3-bedroom, 3 ½-bath detached condo overlooking the 17th fairway at Stonebridge. This is one of the finest condo options you will ever see in the Ann Arbor area. The interior space is dramatic and loaded with quality features and upgrades. Highlights include a panoramic golf course view, great room with vaulted ceiling and hardwood floor, open concept kitchen with professional grade appliances, stunning sunroom, luxury first floor master suite, and finished basement. $674,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – ARBORETUM – Very sharp 4-bedroom, 4 ½-bath home on one of the best lots in this very popular neighborhood walking distance to Downtown Saline. You will love the setting of this home with a spacious backyard, large deck, and great landscaping. The interior sparkles with many recent updates. Features include two-story great room with fireplace, open concept kitchen with granite and stainless steel appliances, luxury first floor master suite, den, 3 bedrooms and 2 baths on the 2nd level, and finished walkout basement. $529,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – HAWTHORNE RIDGE – Sharp 4-bedroom, 2 ½-bath colonial in one of the area's most desired neighborhoods. You will love this location just minutes to Shopping, I-94, and University of Michigan. The lot is nice with a large backyard, ample landscaping, and large deck. The interior highlights include all-hardwood floor on the main level, open concept kitchen with granite counter and stainless steel appliances, family room with fireplace and vaulted ceiling, great master suite, and large kids' bedrooms. $419,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

THE MEADOWINDS – Very nice 4-bedroom, 2 ½-bath two-story in Scio Township just minutes to schools, shopping, and downtown Ann Arbor. The lot backs to protected and common area providing nice privacy from the large deck. The interior sparkles. Highlights include maple kitchen with granite countertops, great room with vaulted ceiling and fireplace, first floor den, luxury master bedroom suite, and great size kids' bedrooms. $414,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

LAKEWOOD ELEMENTARY – This charming 4-bedroom, 2 ½-bath 1930 Tudor in popular Westside Ann Arbor neighborhood is convenient to everything. You will love the setting with mature trees and great landscaping. The interior features great charm and character with original trim and hardwood flooring, living room with fireplace, formal dining, flex-use main level addition with family room, bedroom, and bath. The 2nd level includes 3 bedrooms and a full bath. $374,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

FEATURED HOME

ANN ARBOR HILLS – This 5-bedroom, 4 1/2-bath custom-built estate is one of the finest homes in Ann Arbor. The 2-acre setting is breathtaking. The grounds include extensive landscaping, incredible outdoor living patios, and the finest pool you will see. The home was built to the highest standard of design, materials, and craftsmanship. Highlights include gourmet kitchen with professional grade appliances, dramatic living spaces, luxury master suite, and finished walkout basement. Incredible! $1,795,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

FEATURED HOME

SALINE ESTATES – Custom-built 5-bedroom, 5 ½-bath all-brick and stone home on a quiet cul-de-sac lot with panoramic views of common area and pond. This home was constructed to the highest standards seen in our area. Highlights include one of the nicest residential pools you will find, custom kitchen with granite and Viking/SubZero appliances, open concept family room, Solarium, luxury master suite with brand new bath, and finished walkout basement with 2nd kitchen, large rec room, and additional flex-use rooms. $1,295,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

BROOKVIEW HIGHLANDS – Spectacular, custom-built 6-bedroom, 4 ½-bath two-story on a quiet cul-de-sac in one of Saline's most desired neighborhoods. This home has it all. Gorgeous 1.2-acre lot with extensive landscaping, large patio, and pond. The interior is stunning including custom kitchen with granite and professional grade appliances, family room with fireplace, screen porch, sunroom, luxury master suite with sitting room, and finished basement. $899,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

RIDING OAKS – This custom-built 4-bedroom, 3 ½-bath home by Toll Brothers rests on one of the best lots in this very popular west side neighborhood. You will love the setting on a quiet cul-de-sac lot with large deck, patio, fire pit, and huge backyard. The interior is stunning featuring a two-story foyer with dual sweeping stairs, two-story family room with stacked stone fireplace, open concept kitchen with maple cabinets and granite, and luxury master suite with sitting room, two walk-in closets, and great bath. $849,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

STONEBRIDGE – Custom-built 5-bedroom, 4 ½-bath home with panoramic views of the #11 hole. This home is just stunning inside and out. The exterior features extensive landscaping, large deck, and screened porch. Interior highlights include family room with fieldstone fireplace, open concept kitchen with granite and high-end appliances, luxury master suite with sitting room and spa like bath, and finished walkout basement. $799,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

WINES ELEMENTARY – Classic 4/5-bedroom, 3 ½-bath mid-century modern style ranch on a gorgeous one-acre lot. This setting is special with great privacy, extensive landscaping, large deck, and screened porch all just minutes to downtown, schools, and UM. Interior highlights include great room with vaulted ceiling and fireplace, renovated kitchen with white cabinets, granite, and stainless steel appliances, nice master bedroom suite, and flex-use addition that works as bedroom suite or home office. $774,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – YORK MEADOWS – Incredible 6-bedroom, 4 ½-bath colonial on a spacious 1.4- acre lot backing to common area. You will love this setting with panoramic pond views, extensive landscaping, large deck, and patio with fire pit. The interior is gorgeous. Highlights include two-story family room with fireplace, large cherry kitchen with granite and stainless steel appliances, luxury master suite with great bath and huge closet, and finished basement with bar, two rec spaces, bedroom, and bath. $659,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NE ANN ARBOR – Stately 4-bedroom, 3-bath farmhouse on 10-acres just minutes from Ann Arbor, NCRC, hospitals, and freeways. This is an incredible setting just outside the city with rolling land, historic barn, pond, and hay field. The interior of this home features a century old living room with tons of charm and character, family room with fireplace, large screened porch, nice master suite with attached bath, and 3 large kids' bedrooms. $619,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

FOXFIRE – This 5-bedroom, 3 ½-bath colonial is one of the finest homes you'll see in the popular NE Ann Arbor neighborhood. This home rests on a premium lot backing to a wooded common area. You will love the interior on this home! Highlights include all premium wood flooring throughout, two-story great room with fireplace, open concept kitchen with granite counters, luxury master suite, and finished walkout basement with rec room, bedroom, and bath. $575,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SALINE SCHOOLS – Custom-built 4-bedroom, 2 ½-bath home on 6+ wooded acres, backing to a stream. This setting is incredible. Enjoy one of the prettiest views in Saline from the oversized deck and screened porch. The interior is spacious with over 4000 sq.ft. Highlights include great room with stone fireplace, custom cherry kitchen, luxury first floor master suite, den, and great kids' bedrooms. You will love this home. $549,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – LAWTWON ELEMENTARY – Very nice 3-bedroom, 2 ½-bath home with a contemporary flair. Just minutes to shopping, I-94, and University of Michigan. This home rests on a low traffic cul-de-sac lot with a great fenced backyard. The interior is wonderful and features great room with vaulted ceiling and hardwood floor, remodeled kitchen with granite counters and stainless steel appliances, first floor master suite, and finished basement with a great rec room. $369,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

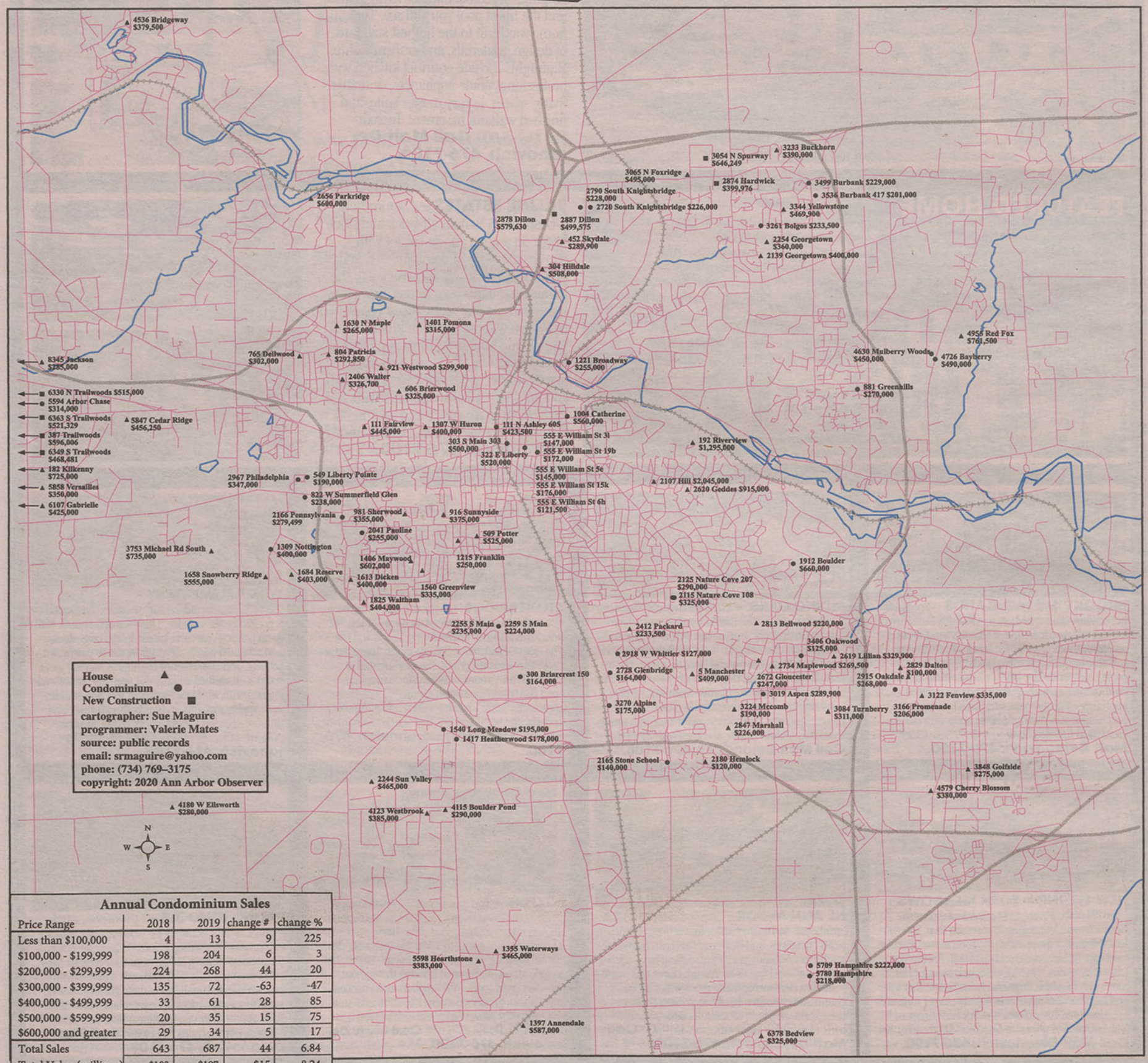
STONEBRIDGE – The 3-bedroom, 2 ½-bath detached patio homes rests on the best lot in the Ponds at Stonebridge. Enjoy gorgeous views of a pond and extensive landscaping from the deck and brick paver patio. The interior of this unit is wonderful. Features include great room with vaulted ceiling, open concept kitchen with maple cabinets, first floor master bedroom with attached bath and walk-in closet, and finished lower level with rec room, bedroom, and bath. $329,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SALINE – Perfectly updated 4-bedroom, 1 ½-bath colonial on an incredible setting backing to Braun Farm. Enjoy panoramic views of protected farmland from your private backyard patio. The interior of this home is wonderful. Highlights include remodeled kitchen with granite countertops, family room with fireplace, spacious formal living room, nice master bedroom, remodeled baths, and finished basement. You can walk to downtown Saline. $324,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

DICKEN ELEMENTARY – This 4-bedroom, 2 ½-bath colonial rests on a wonderful private lot and is ready for a personal touch. You will love this convenient location just minutes to schools, shopping, and UM central campus. The home is solid but needs cosmetic updates. Highlights include kitchen with open concept to family room, large formal living and dining rooms, nice master suite, and great kids' bedrooms. $314,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

FEBRUARY 2020

HOME SALES



Annual Condominium Sales

Price Range	2018	2019	change #	change %
Less than $100,000	4	13	9	225
$100,000 - $199,999	198	204	6	3
$200,000 - $299,999	224	268	44	20
$300,000 - $399,999	135	72	-63	-47
$400,000 - $499,999	33	61	28	85
$500,000 - $599,999	20	35	15	75
$600,000 and greater	29	34	5	17
Total Sales	643	687	44	6.84
Total Value (millions)	$182	$197	$15	8.24
Median Price	$242,500	$230,000	-12,500	-5.5
Average Price	$283,441	$287,197	$3,756	1.33
Median Per Sq'	$189	$188	-$1	-0.53
Average Per Sq'	$209	$211	$2	0.96

Forty percent of the home transfers recorded in the Ann Arbor Public School district in February were condominiums. Prices ranged all the way from $121,500 for a Tower Plaza efficiency to $660,000 for a three-bedroom, 3.1-bath home in Huron Chase. Two of the forty-four condos sold were new construction, both in Toll Brothers' North Oaks community off Nixon Rd.

February's median condo price (half cost less, half cost more) was $228,500, and the average was $280,798. According to the Ann Arbor Board of Realtors Multiple Listing Service, the collective value of condos sold that month was $12.4 million.

Compare that to the $437,827 average price for a single-family home in February, and one can see the appeal of purchasing a condominium. The chart shows condo sales by price range for 2018 and 2019.

Don't get too excited about the 225 percent jump in sales under $100,000. So few units sell in that range that it reflects an increase of just nine sales. The bargains included sales at Colonial Square (an east-side cooperative whose sales get listed as condominiums in the MLS) and Walden Hills on the city's west side.

The $200,000 to $299,999 price range recorded the greatest number of sales both years: 224 in 2018 and 268 in 2019. At least fourteen different condominium complexes in the Ann Arbor Public School District recorded sales in this range, including a Touchstone Cohousing unit on Little Lake Dr. in Scio Twp. Units in this "intentional community" are private, but owners share common areas and activities and make decisions by consensus.

The $300,000 to $399,999 price bracket was the only one that saw fewer sales last year than in 2018. Sixty-three fewer transactions translated to a steep 47 percent decrease. It appears that several condos that would have sold in the high $300,000s in 2018 crossed the $400,000 threshold in 2019. But the real driver of the 85 percent increase in the $400,000 to $499,999 range was an influx of new construction: twenty-two sales in Blue Heron Pond at Liberty and Maple and North Oaks off Nixon Rd.

The $500,000 to $599,999 range saw a 75 percent increase. It, too, got some help by new construction, with sales at North Oaks and the new Kensington Woods community. So did the top range of $600,000 and up, attributable to a flurry of new construction on W. Kingsley and the new Crestview Condominiums on W. Davis.

The total number of condos sold rose 6.84 percent from 2018 to 2019, and total value by 8.24 percent. As this suggests, the average selling price increased only slightly, from $283,441 to $287,917, or 1.33 percent. The median price dropped 5.5 percent, from $242,500 to $230,000. Median and average prices per square foot were nearly unchanged.

—Sue Maguire

Reinhart

LUXURY HOMES

THE EXPERT IN THE SALE OF FINE HOMES

4141 Gleaner Hall Rd, Ann Arbor
3,100 sq. ft. colonial with 4 bedrooms. Located on 2-plus acres, yet so close to Ann Arbor. Cherry kitchen, updated appliances, ceramic tile floors. Finished walkout lower level. $625,000. Pat Durston 734-260-9247. #3271273

6311 Cobblestone Ln, Cobblestone Farms
Beautiful custom built home with 3 tranquil acres. 4 bedrooms, 4.5 baths plus study, gleaming hardwood floors, walkout lower level, granite counters, screened porch, wooded setting. $694,900. Ed Ridha 734-645-3110. #3268854

3991 Calgary Ct, The Pines of Lake Forest
Stately brick home. Impeccable. Fresh paint. Two-story foyer with cherry wood floors. Huge walkout lower level with lots of daylight. Bonus room. 6 bedroom, 4.5 bath, 3-car garage. $869,900. Lyla Icaza 734-678-3863. #3271286

2663 Timber Hill Dr, Walnut Ridge
Beautiful 4 bedroom, 3.5 bath with gourmet kitchen and high-end finishes. Includes 4 season sun porch, 2-story vaulted great room with walls of windows, and private back yard. $995,000. John Sloan 734-358-7895. #3270651

2754 Whispering Woods Dr, Ann Arbor
Walnut Ridge 5 bedroom, 5.5 bath, 4,421 sq. ft. home with in-ground pool, wood floors, granite counters, towering windows, walkout lower level, 3-car garage. Scio Township taxes. $1,499,999. Maura Rains 313-717-7788. #3271570

5198 Grande View Lane, Jackson
4 bedroom, 3.5 bath luxury home on The Grande Golf Course 10th hole with pond view. 3,780 finished sq. ft. Quartz counter tops, custom deck and patio. Must visit to appreciate. $649,000. Amelia Woods 734-585-4734. #3270716

4540 Old Oak Ct, Superior Township
Exquisite former builder's home, rich with quality details throughout, includes 4 bedrooms and 6 baths on 2 acres. Limestone foyer, mahogany staircase, hand-carved mantle. $760,000. Dana Vespremi 734-904-3868. #3270728

9755 Harbor Trail Dr, Webster Township
5 bedroom, 3.5 bath with 4,395 livable sq. ft. including walkout lower level with wet bar, theater room, bed and full bath. 1st floor master, in-ground pool with stamped concrete patio. $875,000. Brent Flewelling 734-646-4263. #3271423

5520 Stonevalley Dr, Ann Arbor
1.5-story home on 3.8 park-like acres with mature trees and panoramic views. 4,041 sq. ft. above along with 2,000 sq. ft. finished walkout with wine cellar, exercise room, and more. $1,099,000. Rick Taylor 734-223-5656. #3271017

1912 Austin Ave, Ives Woods
Elegant, light-filled prairie style brick home. 5 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, gourmet kitchen, striking rear-entry atrium with incredible skylight. Located on corner lot in Ives Woods. $1,550,000. Carolyn Leppard 734-417-2900. #3271237

5004 Lohr Rd, Ann Arbor
Stunning 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath home with in-ground pool, hot tub, gourmet kitchen, and hardwood floors. 0.82 acre scenic lot in Stonebridge Estates. Great location. Township taxes. $649,900. Snow Liao 734-678-4848. #3271675

5050 Pleasant Lake, Saline Schools
Lovingly cared for 6 bedroom, 4 full, 1 half bath with 4,000-plus sq. ft. Cherry wood floors, granite kitchen, deck, finished lower level with kitchen, fireplace, family room. $774,900. Nancy Arnold 734-260-3505. #3270862

3629 Northbrooke Dr, Arbor Hills
On an exceptional 1.34 acre site in Arbor Hills. This stately home has been perfectly updated throughout. Includes expansive great room with fireplace and deluxe chef's kitchen. $899,000. Nancy Bishop 734-761-3040. #3271397

3212 W Dobson Pl, The Woodlands
This stunning home in The Woodlands sits on a spectacular wooded lot in Northeast Ann Arbor with 4,200 sq. ft. plus a finished lower level. Hardwood floors, premium granite. $1,150,000. Matt Miller 734-476-4869. #3265530

8786 W Liberty Rd, Ann Arbor
30 private acres in Ann Arbor with 5,500 sq. ft. home and plenty of room for animals. Stunning Brazilian cherry walls and stairs. Granite heated floors throughout main level. Dexter Schools. $1,649,000. Jeff Klink 734-260-7483. #3266930

1733 Monterey Ct, Ann Arbor
Stonebridge contemporary brick ranch with hardwood floors, 3 season sunroom, vaulted ceilings, full finished egress lower level, 5 bedrooms, 3.5 baths. Updated light fixtures and skylights. $650,000. Scott Guyor 734-904-1900. #3270017

8133 Trail Ridge, Dexter
Custom home with finished walkout lower level to include kitchen, bedroom, bath and laundry. First floor Master, stone fireplace, oversized windows, gourmet kitchen. Wooded site. $789,900. Janet McAllister 734-231-3508. #3271399

1817 Cambridge Road, College Hill
Federal style quality built 1926 with amazing 1st floor master suite, elevator, study and den added 2008! 5 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, brilliant sunlight! Stunning garden. Walk to campus and the arb. $945,000. Michal Porath 734-395-0650.

3164 Cottontail Ct, Parkridge Estates
All brick home on 1.7 acre in Scio Township. 5 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, 6,036 sq. ft. Updated, 1st floor master, formal dining, 1st floor study. 3-car garage and beautiful screened porch. $1,245,000. Lisa Stelter 734-645-7909. #3270551

4220 E North Territorial Rd, Ann Arbor
Brand new by Christian Tennant Custom Homes is a must see! Incredible estate has over 5,000 sq. ft. of the finest quality ever! Sits on 15.85 acres. Elevator service to all three levels. $1,650,000. Nancy Bishop 734-761-3040. #3271103

2110 Shadford Rd, Burns Park
Great location in Burns Park! 2,838 sq. ft., 5 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, 3-car garage, 0.35 acre fenced yard. 2 master suites and spacious kitchen area. Top floor master includes private porch. $674,500. Jean Wedemeyer 734-604-2523. #3271042

9811 Leach Lane, Baseline Lake
A-frame, 4 bedroom, 2 bath home on Base Line Lake. 60 ft. of shoreline. Built 1995. Open concept with cathedral ceilings, wood-burning fireplace, skylights, and 2.5-car garage. $865,000. Julie Svinicki 734-358-7700. #3269418

4323 Boulder Pond Drive, Stonebridge
Exceptional 6 bedrooms, 5 full, 1 half bath with stunning water views on the pond! Updates including kitchen and master bath. Finished walkout with 2nd kitchen, in-law suite. $995,000. Elizabeth Brien 734-645-4444. #3270934

2960 Hickory Ln, Ann Arbor Hills
Beautiful Ann Arbor Hills home has been completely renovated. 5 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, hardwood floors, gourmet kitchen, fabulous master suite, rear brick patio, and much more! $1,235,000. Elizabeth Brien 734-645-4444. #3271730

1825 Geddes Ave, Nichols Arbortetum
Amazing cotswold style home adjacent to Nichols Arboretum. Charming 1925 home, substantial renovations have been completed! 6 bedrooms, 4 full and 2 half baths, full basement. $1,799,000. Nate Foerg 734-834-1981. #3271282

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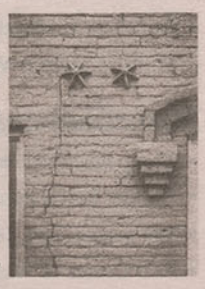
i spy

by Sally Bjork

Darling, isn't it?

"Sob! The I Spy photo for March is of Treasure Mart," writes Sara Kitzsteiner. "We'll miss it so much when it's sold." It's been "a real 'treasure' … all these years," says Christine Alexander. "The Treasure Mart [was] opened in 1960 by Demaris Cash," writes Susan Wineberg. "Her daughter Elaine Johns and her husband [Carl] have run it for decades."

"Who can forget all those lazy Saturday mornings strolling down the block from Zingerman's … [then] spending the entire morning at the Mart," says David Karl. From a chest of drawers purchased for a first house to a wooden barstool with Naugahyde seat used daily for thirty years, readers recalled many treasured purchases at the Mart. "When I learned that [they] were planning to sell, I was a little sad, but hopeful," writes Karl. With some "luck, the tradition may continue." Dan Romanchik says "my wife did a little research and that masonry crack [in the photo] has also been there since 1960." First occupied by Miller's Planing Mill, the building was built in 1869. "These mills dotted Detroit Street and Kerrytown," writes Wineberg.



Twenty-five people entered our contest; all correctly identified the Treasure Mart. Our random drawing winner, Riita Huff of Ann Arbor, will enjoy her $25 gift certificate at Zingerman's. To enter this month's contest, use the image and clue above and send your answer to the address below.

fake ad

by Jay Forstner

Yes, the Fake Ad contest continues. After 9/11, we continued to create our unimportant little game, so there's no reason to stop now. Today feels like that time.

We received 146 correct entries identifying the Fake Ad for Students for a Demeatbased Society on pg. 83 of the March Observer. The last name of the previous month's winner, Farmer, was the answer to the question the ad asked, "Who should be friends with the cowman?"

"Hilarious!!!" wrote Sylvia Ruiz. "Rodgers and Hammerstein would have had a cow if they had seen this ad for Students for A Demeatbased Society. Who should be friends with the cowman? The FARMER. 'One man likes to push a plough, the other likes to chase a cow, but that's no reason they cain't be friends,' at least in *Oklahoma*. Thanks for the laughs."

And Ken Westerman wrote, "This ad, in Ann Arbor, with our plethora of musical lovers and opportunities to indulge that love, should generate a new high in correct answers. The name of last month's winner, Farmer, is, obviously, the answer to 'Who Should Be Friends with the COWMAN?' Though I cannot immediately remember when the last local performance of *Oklahoma!* was. I do remember its title song was my favorite for decades, starting when Janice Clark, Professor Emeritus of Music Education, then the elementary vocal music teacher at Burns Park, taught it year after year in the '50's to the entire student body."

Art Langeneckert (Really? Like writing this month's ad wasn't already challenging enough?) was chosen as our winner. He's taking his gift certificate to Afternoon Delight.

To enter this month's contest, find the fake ad and follow the instructions in the box below. The fake ad always contains the name of last month's winner in some form.

To enter this month's contests, send email to backpage@aaobserver.com. Mail: 2390 Winewood, Ann Arbor, MI 48103. All correct entries received by noon on April 10th will be eligible for our random drawings. Winners receive $25 gift certificates to any business advertising in this issue.

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THANKS!

We extend a sincere thank you to our new Observer friends!

We appreciate your financial support.

Thanks also to readers who responded to our request for **FREE** subscription confirmations.

Congratulations to the lucky winners of our March drawing!

The following readers won a **$25 gift certificate** to their choice of any business advertising in the Observer.

March winners:
Pat K. & Norma M.

If you would like to be entered in the April drawing for a $25 gift certificate to any business advertising in this issue, check out the information on page 56, and submit your Observer Friend or Free Subscription confirmation by April 10.

Thanks!

Observer Staff

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A note to the members of our community:

a2tix, the Ann Arbor Observer, and all of our wonderful event organizers are very mindful of the health of event attendees. As you may already be aware, many large events have been cancelled or postponed in order to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

We encourage you to reach out to event organizers in order to keep up to date with changing schedules. All questions related to ticket refunds and/or donations should be directed to event organizations. We may send updates if we learn of any cancellations in an effort to keep you informed.

For the latest updates on events and cancellations, please refer to the Ann Arbor Observer Events Calendar online and in print.

From everyone here at a2tix and Ann Arbor Observer team, stay safe, and thank you for your support!

a2tix believes
that communities
make great hosts.

Events at a Glance

Current as of March 18. Check for updates at AnnArborObserver.com/Events

*Daily **Events** listings begin on p. **44**. **Films:** p. **55**. **Galleries:** p. **53**. **Kids:** p. **52**.*

➢**Reviewed** in this issue. See p. 44.

Concert Music

classical, religious, cabaret

- Soprano Caroline Helton and pianist Kathryn Goodson, Apr. 4
- Pianist Louis Nagel (SMA), Apr. 8
- Spring orchestra concert (EMU), Apr. 17

Vernacular Music

pop, rock, jazz, & traditional

- Singer-pianist David Vaughn (eclectic repertoire), Apr. 11
- Ann Arbor Youth Chorale, Apr. 17
- Singer-songwriter Don Campbell (country-flavored folk-rock), Apr. 17
- Paul Keller Orchestra (big jazz band), Apr. 22
- Vocalist Sheila Landis & guitarist Rick Matle (jazz), Apr. 23
- Women's Chamber Chorus spring concert, Apr. 24
- Singer John Ford Coley (country-rock/pop), Apr. 24

Theater, Opera, & Dance

- *Paint Night* (Purple Rose Theatre), Apr. 2–May. 30
- *The Parliament of Poets* (Apollo's Troupe), Apr. 3, 4, 10, & 18
- *The Great American Trailer Park Musical* (Dexter Community Players), Apr. 17–19

Comedy, Storytelling, & Performance Art

- Comic Andy Pitz, Apr. 2–4
- ➢Comedy Jamm, *Apr. 8, 22, & 30*
- Comic Kevin Ruff, Apr. 9–11
- Stand-up science comedy, Apr. 15
- Comic Jackie Kashian, Apr. 16–18
- Arabic poetry exploration, Apr. 21
- Comic Matt McClowry, Apr. 23–25

Festivals, Fairs, & Shows

- Curling Fest, Apr. 11
- Record & CD collector's show, Apr. 19
- Bicycle show & swap, Apr. 25

Lectures, Readings, & Forums

- "A Reassessment of Life on This Planet," Apr. 5, 11, & 19
- *New Yorker* "comma queen" Mary Norris, Apr. 6
- City of Ann Arbor sustainability forum, Apr. 9
- Prison Creative Arts Project book reading, Apr. 17
- Novelist Rebecca Dinerstein Knight, Apr. 21
- French fiction writer Nicolas Mathieu, Apr. 27

Family & Kids' Stuff

*See our **Kids Calendar,** p. 52, for most kids events.*

- Visit with nocturnal animals, Apr. 10
- Earth Day celebration, Apr. 19, 22, & 26
- Midwest Literary Walk, Apr. 25

Miscellaneous

- Group bike rides, every Tues., Thurs., & Fri.
- "Empty Bowls Fundraiser," Apr. 17
- Star gazing, Apr. 18 & 25
- Bird Center of Washtenaw County fundraiser, Apr. 26
- ACLU fundraiser, Apr. 29

"Only in Ann Arbor" Event of the Month

- Non-contact contact improv, Apr. 12 & 26

alternative activities

Although many in-person events have been put on hiatus, there are still community-supported activities that you can enjoy while social distancing.

Nature

- Local parks and trails are open from sunrise to sunset. These include:
- City of Ann Arbor parks, trails, & nature areas. Full list of locations available at a2gov.org
- Nichols Arboretum
- Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy's properties, including the Pittsfield Stream Corridor (1130 W. Textile Rd.)
- U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens
- U-M Public Field Research sites, including Saginaw Preserve (3900 W. Liberty Rd.) & Stinchfield Woods (9401 Stinchfield Woods Rd., Pinckney)
- Pittsfield Preserve (south side of Textile Rd., west of Platt Rd.)
- Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation nature preserves. Full list of locations available at washtenaw.org/288/Parks-Recreation

Music

- Free & paid **live streamed performances** from many local musicians. Consult your favorite musician's social media pages for more information.
- Kerrytown Concert House's "Joyful Music for Uncertain Times," which features **free prerecorded performances** by musicians. KerrytownConcertHouse.com
- Blue LLama Jazz Club's live streamed in-house jazz performances (with no audience). facebook.com/bluellamajazzclub
- Ann Arbor District Library's Ann Arbor music & performance server allows you to listen to **local music**. aadl.org/aamps
- Online music performances & live streamed events at StayAtHomeFest.com

Talks & Lectures

- U-M Art School's popular **Penny Stamps Speaker Series,** with pre-recorded and live streamed lectures by artists from around the world. stamps.umich.edu/stamps

Miscellaneous

- **DIY crafting** videos. aadl.org/creativebug
- **eBook & audiobook** database. aadl.org/catalog/ebooks
- **Online galleries** from the U-M libraries, featuring everything from children's books to 19th-century fashion. lib.umich.edu/online-exhibits
- The U-M Kelsey Museum Of Archaeology's **digitized exhibitions.** lsa.umich.edu/kelsey/exhibitions/online-exhibitions
- Virtual tours of select art museums & national parks. ArtsAndCulture.google.com

Kids

- Puzzle-based online kids game **Bummer Game.** play.aadl.org
- Live-streamed library **storytimes.** aadl.tv

Ann Arbor Observer

Coping with Covid-19

Reaching the Observer

In March, the novel coronavirus went from international news to local contingency plans to city, county, state, and national declarations of emergency. As the Observer goes to press, downtown and campus are nearly deserted. So is our office: most of us did our work on this issue hunkered down at home.

The office phone number, (734) 769-3175 is still active, but may not always be answered. For the time being, the best way to reach us is by email:

Advertising: adsales@aaobserver.com
Business: business@aaobserver.com
Events: events@aaobserver.com
Editorial: editor@aaobserver.com
Subscriptions: subscribe@aaobserver.com

Tracking the Outbreak

By now everyone has seen the guidance on what we need to do to #flattenthecurve of infections that has overwhelmed healthcare systems elsewhere. U-M medical historian Howard Markel puts his own spin on that advice—and his perspective on how we got here—on p. 13. But here are the websites we've been turning to for news and guidance:

Washtenaw County Health Department: washtenaw.org/covid19
Michigan DHHS: michigan.com/coronavirus
US Centers for Disease Control: cdc.gov/coronavirus

Michigan DHHS hotline: 888-535-6136 (health-related questions, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. daily)

Surviving the Shutdown

If you have lost income, see Up Front, p. 11, for places to turn. See the same section for ways to volunteer or donate. For ideas on how to help local businesses, see Restaurants, p. 33, Marketplace Changes, p. 37, and the State Street District's ad on p. 12.

Food distribution sites: foodgatherers.org/needfood
Social service referrals: dial 211 or visit unitedwaysem.org/2-1-1
United Way emergency coronavirus fund: uwwashtenaw.org
Volunteering: volunteerwashtenaw.org

We appreciate everyone's understanding during these uncertain times.
We are still here, reporting, and working to keep Ann Arbor informed.

Please follow us on Facebook, Twitter for updates.
See AnnArborObserver.com/subscribe to support us as a Friend of the Observer.
And as the city stirs back to life, visit AnnArborObserver.com for full and updated information on events.

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